

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## POLL RESULTS

Should MPLT grant CUC's loan application for \$4.5 million so it could rent power engines from Aggreko to stabilize Saipan's power supply?:

Option	Votes
YES	28
NO	79
NO OPINION	2

Sunday, July 20, 2008, 6:30 PM

## INSIDE



### Obama in Kabul

Sen. Barack Obama shares Sunday breakfast with American troops in Afghanistan.

ASIA...Page 18



### Ab Training

A few truths about ab training: First, it's annoying. Second, exercise is only part of the battle.

HEALTH & FITNESS...Page 20

## FINAL DISTRIBUTION IN GARMENT SETTLEMENT \$1.6M for garment workers



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

### LAS VEGAS NIGHT

Hundreds of guest try their luck on different games during the Rotary Club of Saipan's Las Vegas night inside the Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort Saturday evening.

## Wars' toll on military families mounts

By DAVID CRARY  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

### ON THE NET

Army family-support programs: <http://www.behavioralhealth.army.mil/>

**FORT CAMPBELL, Ky.** (AP)—Far from the combat zones, the strains and separations of no-end-in-sight wars are taking an ever-growing toll on military families despite the

armed services' earnest efforts to help.

Divorce lawyers see it in the breakup of youthful marriages

See WARS on Page 4

Gymnastics instructor Yvette Chumacero helps Mollie Fager, 3, walk on the balance beam during the "Lunch Bunch" program at the Skies Unlimited facility at Fort Campbell, Ky., April 15, 2008. The program gives parents free time from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

AP



By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Garment Oversight Board has issued 11,353 new checks and will be sending out 1,031 more to some current and former garment workers in connection with the class action against the garment industry.

In total, the 12,384 checks are worth \$1,599,495. All the checks have the same amount of \$145, according to GOB chair Timothy Bellas.

See \$1.6M on Page 4

## CUC to undergo oversight hearing

### RELATED NEWS

CUC asks Mobil for 60-day credit term. **PAGE 3**  
'Many support protest rally on Capital Hill' **PAGE 9**

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Public Utilities and Infrastructure Committee of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation is moving forward with its plan to convene formal oversight hearings on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Although no date has been set for the formal hearings,

See CUC on Page 4

MLSC faced with over \$80K budget shortfall. **PAGE 3**  
University of Loyola now accepting students. **PAGE 6**



Hans Mickelson

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# Local

We, Teachers, Staff and Management of Saipan Community School wish to thank all the parents, guardians and other supporters for your valuable contributions to the school through services and donations during the school year 2007-2008. May you continue your support to the school in the years to come. School 2008/2009 will start on August 11, 2008.

God Bless you all and have a great summer

## Tenorio, Torres discuss financial aid with OEA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Resident Representative Pete A. Tenorio and Rep. Ralph DLG. Torres recently met with Patrick J. O'Brien, director of the Office of Economic Adjustment in Washington, to discuss financial assistance and grant program possibilities for the Northern Marianas in anticipation of the military buildup on Guam and use of Tinian.

The Office of Economic Adjustment under the Department of Defense is the primary source for assisting communities affected by base realignments, closures, expansions, and other Defense program changes. OEA offers various technical and financial assistance to affected communities by identifying resources and needs and assists in financial analysis and capital markets planning and organization. OEA is also responsible in assisting and coordinating the

resources and involvement of other Federal Agencies through the Defense Economic Adjustment Program.

Also from OEA, Sacramento regional staff Gary Kuwabara and Anthony Gallegos were present to discuss the scope of the Department of Defense plans and involvement of the Northern Marianas as a major training and exercise location on Tinian. With over 16,100 acres of leased area known as Military Lease Area, the Department of Defense is focusing on the viability of Tinian.

"Currently the CNMI is not eligible to receive assistance from OEA, but an amendment has been made to H.R. 5658, the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, by Congresswoman Madaleine Bordallo of Guam that would extend the assistance programs of the Office of Economic Adjustment to the CNMI. The bill has passed the House of Representatives and is expected to be passed by the Senate in September. The Congress annually approves a Defense Authorization bill," explained Tenorio.

Tenorio and Torres were most encouraged of their meeting with O'Brien. In anticipation of the extension of OEA programs to the CNMI, OEA had detailed one of its professional staff, Gary Kuwabara, several months ago to meet with officials of the CNMI to discuss the potential impact to the Commonwealth with respect to the planned military buildup on Guam and the role that OEA will play in mobilizing resources for studies and projects.

During the meeting Tenorio and Torres also recommended and urged OEA to seriously consider the island of Rota in its scope of plans for the NMI as a future venue for rest-and-relaxation of military personnel anywhere in Asia, especially Guam. Its close proximity to Guam and the island's rich history of the Marianas culture and tradition, the friendly and warm ambience of its people, make Rota an ideal and perfect destination for rest and relaxation.

"I look forward to sharing this good news with the people of Tinian and Rota and to meet with both the Tinian and Rota Mayors and legislative delegation to discuss how OEA can help them," said Tenorio.

"This meeting was important to ensure policy makers in Washington are completely aware of what is happening both in federal legislation, but also on the grant eligibility for OEA grants can go a long way in preparing Tinian and Rota to take advantage of the relocation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Expeditionary Force to Guam," Tenorio added. (PR)



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# MLSC faced with over \$80K budget shortfall

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. has warned lawmakers about the impact of the agency's funding woes on the Commonwealth's poor residents.

"The real effect will be felt by the indigent residents of the CNMI," Jane Mack, directing attorney at MLSC Marianas Office, said in a letter justifying to the Legislature the free legal aid agency's \$170,000 "rock-bottom" budget request for fiscal year 2009.

"They will have a harder time getting free legal help. They will be underrepresented in important legal matters and there is a greater risk of injustice when litigants do not have competent legal guidance. There may be greater demand on the court to appoint counsel in civil cases where there is a right to counsel," Mack added.

Mack reported that MLSC Marianas Office is now facing a budget shortfall of over \$80,000. The shortfall occurred because

## 'Situation could gravely impact NMI's poor residents'

the agency was under-funded in FY2004, and received the same funding level in the three succeeding years. In FY2007, MLSC Marianas Office got only \$40,000. The agency received "virtually nothing" in FY2008.

She also described the legal aid office's \$170,000 budget proposal as "rock-bottom request."

"If you were to appropriate more, we would put it to good use. But we understand that in these fiscally difficult times, everyone must try to get by on the least possible. Our request reflects that philosophy," she told the Legislature.

In addition, she called on the lawmakers to provide \$120,000 for the renovation of MLSC's portion of the building at Civic Center, which was named as an historic site by the Legislature.

MLSC occupies approximately two thirds of the building and the criminal division of the Attorney General's Office uses the other one third. The

AGO has renovated its portion of the building at a cost of about \$70,000. MLSC needs to do the same, said Mack.

The needed renovation, according to Mack, includes reconstruction of deteriorating exterior walls, re-wiring including conduit for computer and technological systems, new flooring, new screens and windows, and updated interior partitions.

"We desperately need to reconstruct deteriorating walls to keep rats out and protect ourselves from the termite damage. We all need to update interior partitions because, with the AG's renovation, we lost about three from one of our attorney's offices and it is now too small for practical use," Mack said.

"The longer the project is delayed, the more expensive it will be because of rising costs and deterioration on site," she added.

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. receives money from the Legal Services Corporation, a

private, non-profit corporation formed by the U.S. Congress to provide civil legal aid to the indigent population.

The amount of money the

Marianas Office receives from LSC depends on the number of poor persons, which is tied to the number of food stamp recipients, Census Bureau numbers,

and United Nations statistics.

Based on CNMI statistics, Mack said, the MLSC-Marianas Office will receive about \$288,000 from LSC in FY2009. The agency says it needs about \$455,000 to operate.



## CUC asks Mobil for 60-day credit term

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has asked its fuel supplier for an arrangement that will allow CUC to delay payment for fuel for 60 days.

CUC executive director Antonio S. Muña said that a 60-day credit term will buy CUC some extra time to collect from its customers before making payments to the Mobil Oil Marianas.

Muña explained that the two-month lag between the time CUC sends out billings and time they become due, compounded by the fast-increasing price of fuel, is causing serious cash problems for CUC.

In May, for instance, CUC got a \$7.7 million bill for fuel, while collecting only \$6.1 million in fuel charges from the March billings. Muña said CUC was forced to use \$1.6 million of non-fuel charge collections to address the increase in fuel costs.

Muña argued that a 60-day credit term would benefit not only CUC, but also Mobil. "Both CUC and Mobil have something to gain by immediately implementing credit terms for fuel purchases, which will stabilize CUC working capital needs to address not only fuel purchases but non-fuel costs as well. I am sure that Mobil can appreciate the importance of CUC meeting non-fuel obliga-

tions required for continued power production which will allow for recurring purchase of fuel supply," he said in a letter to Brian Bamba, the Guam-based commercial manager of Mobil Oil Marianas.

As of Friday, CUC had yet to receive a response from Mobil about the proposal.

Muña reported that, from Oct. 1, 2007 to May 31, 2008, CUC purchased fuel from Mobil on a cash basis amounting to \$50.15 million.

From February 2008 to May 2008, the price of fuel has increased nearly 30 percent. CUC's average order of 47,421 barrels, which cost \$5.8 million in February, cost \$7.7 million in May.

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# Fernandez and Furey ask judge to defend NMC from ‘injustices’

Northern Marianas College president Carmen Fernandez and former acting NMI Board of Regents chair Eloise Furey have asked the Superior Court to reconsider its decision in connection with Rep. Stanley T. Torres’ lawsuit and allow NMC to defend itself “against these manifest injustices.”

Hernandez and Furey, through lawyer F. Matthew Smith, said that associate judge David A. Wiseman’s granting of summary judgment in fa-

vor of Torres contains “several clear errors” that warrant reconsideration and reversal.

“NMC also hopes the court will recognize the substantial and manifest injustice that has and will result if the current decision is allowed to stand,” said Smith in the motion for reconsideration.

In his decision, Wiseman ordered Fernandez and Furey to produce all public records being asked by the lawmaker.

In the same ruling, Wiseman

denied a motion to dismiss the allegations against Fernandez and Furey.

Wiseman, however, granted a motion to dismiss the allegations against former assistant attorney general Linda Waugh and Smith.

In his 10-page order, the judge said that, according to the Open Government Act, all public records shall be available for inspection, “unless inspection of such records is in violation of any Commonwealth or federal law.”

“Here, it is evident from the record that NMC has offered to produce the requested records insofar as they do not violate any protected privacy interests or CNMI or federal law,” Wiseman said.

He agreed with Torres that the lawmaker is entitled to inspect the requested records.

The judge directed both parties to meet and confer in good faith to establish a method of producing the requested records for inspection by Torres without

revealing constitutionally or legally protected records.

Torres sued Fernandez, Furey, Waugh, and Smith for allegedly not producing records that he requested pursuant to the Open Government Meetings and Records Act.

In the motion for reconsideration, Smith said NMC and the other parties in the lawsuit have incurred substantial attorneys’ fees, and the statute allows for these fees to be paid.

Smith said that more important

than fees, however, is the fact that these numerous requests, made over a period of years by Torres and Jack Angello, have always been improper, and not made for any true desire for transparency in NMC’s operations.

“Throughout the history of this matter, NMC made every effort to comply with Rep. Torres’s requests—improper, abusive, and harassing though they were—but as argued before, it has never been enough for Rep. Torres,” the lawyer said. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## \$1.6M

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune learned that some former and current garment workers who are still in the CNMI started receiving the checks last week. The checks are the second they received under the settlement.

Bellas said they started sending the 11,353 checks in mid-June and the second batch will be sent by July 26 or 28.

“It’s for the total number of people that are entitled to checks based on the settlement agreement. It’s [for] the people who cashed the first checks,” the former judge said.

Bellas said the checks were sent or will be sent not only to the eligible workers who are still in the CNMI but also to those in other countries.

“If they’re here on Saipan and they don’t come in and tell us, if [we have their address] in their home country, that’s where

the checks will go. That’s been a subject of confusion; they are all coming in now saying ‘I’m here.’ If you don’t come in and tell us that, we have no way of knowing that that you’re [still] here,” he said.

Bellas said they have been issuing the checks in batches and that he has only three staff, including a part-time employee, who have been working on the checks to explain why it has taken some time to issue the checks.

“They [GOB staff] have to put the address on [the envelopes]. They have to put the checks in. And they have to take it to the post office and they have to put postage [on each envelope],” he said.

GOB has been distributing the checks to get rid of the leftover money from the settlement funds.

“The idea is to pass on whatever is leftover because this is not based on their how long the [garment workers] worked or anything. This is just to finish up the money,” Bellas said.

After the money goes out, there won’t be any further distributions, he said. Any money that is left over will be placed in a Garment Workers Trust Fund to fund things as the GOB deems appropriate.

“We have to see first how much money is left but, for instance, if there is some sort of a problem with garment workers that we need to help,” GOB could use the leftover funds, he said.

Bellas said the Garment Workers Trust Fund will be

funded based on the checks that come back or don’t get cashed.

After the first distribution of checks, GOB re-issued some of the checks because some workers said they did not receive the checks for some reasons. GOB also issued some new checks for eligible workers who are in the CNMI but never got on the list.

GOB was set up pursuant to the \$20-million settlement agreement to oversee the monitoring program of the garment industry.

## CUC

From Page 1

the committee is proceeding with its preliminary investigation, reviewing documents and requesting information from CUC in writing prior to the hearings. It will also have a meeting with the Office of the

Public Auditor today to discuss the scope of the oversight.

The committee, chaired by Rep. Tina Sablan, has received support from House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios and SNILD chair Ramon Tebuteb for the hearings. But while Tebuteb has backed the planned oversight, he has cautioned the committee about potential issues concern-

ing its subpoena power.

The SNILD rules provide the committees the power to subpoena government officials and documents. However, it is not clear that the Constitution or the law supports this rule. According to Tebuteb, it appears that only the presiding officers of the Legislature, as well as the House and Senate committees,

have subpoena power.

Sablan said the procedural issue may be addressed by simply getting the signatures of either the House speaker or the Senate president on any subpoena the committee may issue.

The committee wants to look at CUC-related concerns including the consistency between statutes, regulations, and policies pertain-

ing to CUC and actual practices; the agency’s financial viability; actual progress and performance of contractors hired to rehabilitate and repair the engines at CUC; plans for short-term power generation relief and long-term solutions, if any, at CUC; and other areas of concern.

The other committee members are Sen. Frica Pangelinan, Reps.

Ed Salas, and committee vice chair Rep. Frank Dela Cruz.

The call for the oversight hearing arose during the June 17 community forum that Sablan and other concerned citizens organized. Forum participants, numbering about 200 Saipan residents, “overwhelmingly requested and endorsed” a formal legislative oversight on CUC, Sablan said.

## WARS

From Page 1

as long, multiple deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan fuel alienation and mistrust. Domestic violence experts see it in the scuffles that often precede a soldier’s departure or sour a briefly joyous homecoming.

Teresa Moss, a counselor at Fort Campbell’s Lincoln Elementary School, hears it in the voices of deployed soldiers’ children as they meet in groups to share accounts of nightmares, bedwetting and heartache.

“They listen to each other. They hear that they aren’t the only ones not able to sleep, having their teachers yell at them,” Moss said.

Even for Army spouses with solid marriages, the repeated separations are an ordeal.

“Three deployments in, I still have days when I want to hide under the bed and cry,” said Jessica Leonard, who is raising two small children and teaching a “family team building” class to other wives at Fort Campbell. Her husband, Capt. Lance Leonard, is in Iraq.

Those classes are among numerous initiatives to support war-strained families. Yet military officials acknowledge that the vast needs outweigh available resources, and critics complain of persistent shortcomings—a dearth of updated data on domestic violence, short

shift for families of National Guard and Reserve members, inadequate support for spouses and children of wounded and traumatized soldiers.

If the burden sounds heavier than what families bore in the longest wars of the 20th century—World War II and Vietnam—that’s because it is, at least in some ways. What makes today’s wars distinctive is the deployment pattern—two, three, sometimes four overseas stints of 12 or 15 months. In the past, that kind of schedule was virtually unheard of.

“It’s hard to go away, it’s hard to come back, and go away and come back again,” said Dr. David Benedek, a leading Army psychiatrist. “That is happening on a larger scale than in our previous military endeavors. They’re just getting their feet wet with some sort of sense of normalcy, and then they have to go again.”

Almost in one breath, military officials praise the resiliency that enables most families to endure and acknowledge candidly that the wars expose them to unprecedented stresses and the risk of long-lasting scars.

“There’s nothing that has prepared many of our families for the length of these deployments,” said Rene Robichaux, social work programs manager for the U.S. Army Medical Command. “It’s hard to communicate to a family member how stressful the environment

is, not just the risk of injury or death, but the austere circumstances, the climate, the living conditions.”

An array of studies by the Army and outside researchers say that marital strains, risk of child maltreatment and other problems harmful to families worsen as soldiers serve multiple combat tours.

For example, a Pentagon-funded study last year concluded that children in some Army families were markedly more vulnerable to abuse and neglect by their mothers when their fathers were deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In Iraq, the latest survey by Army mental health experts showed that more than 15 percent of married soldiers deployed there were planning a divorce, with the rates for soldiers at the late stages of deployment triple those of recent arrivals.

For the Army, especially, the challenges are staggering as it furnishes the bulk of combat forces. As of last year, more than 55 percent of its soldiers were married, a far higher rate than during the Vietnam war. The nearly 513,000 soldiers on active duty collectively had more than 493,000 children.

Jessica Leonard at Fort Campbell says family support programs there have improved since her husband’s first combat tour, helping her feel more self-reliant. Yet she’s convinced that domestic violence

and divorce are rising at the base, which is home to the 101st Airborne Division.

“Infidelity is huge on both sides—a wife is lonely, she looks for attention and finds it easier to cheat,” she said. “It does make even the most sound marriages second-guess.”

Among soldiers coming home, whether for two-week breaks that often end with wrenching good-byes or for longer stays, she sees evidence of lower morale and rising depression.

“They come home, and find that problems are still there,” she said. “Instead of a refreshing R-and-R, a nice little second honeymoon, it’s battle for two weeks.”

There have been some horrific incidents shattering families of soldiers back from the wars—a former Army paratrooper from Michigan charged with raping and beating his infant daughter; a sergeant from Hawaii’s Army National Guard accused of killing his 14-year-old son as the boy tried to save his pregnant mother from a knife attack by the soldier.

In one of the saddest cases, a recently divorced airman who served with distinction in Iraq chased his ex-wife out of military housing with a pistol in February before killing his two young children and himself at Oklahoma’s Tinker Air Force Base. Tech. Sgt. Dustin Thorson’s former wife had sought a protection order against him,

saying he threatened to kill the children if she filed for divorce.

Officials at Tinker, while confirming that Thorson had been getting mental health care, would not say whether those problems related to his service in Iraq.

His brother, Shane Thorson, a sheriff’s deputy from Pasco, Wash., who also served in Iraq, has no doubt Dustin’s war experiences contributed to the tragedy.

“He didn’t want to go—he was afraid, but he had a job that he’d signed up to do and he went and did it,” Shane said. “I do think it led up to everything that happened. ... It opened up a world of death and chaos and uncertainty.”

Shane, who is married and has an 8-year-old daughter, is sure the deployments have damaged many marriages.

“My wife and friends, they tell me I’m not the same person before I came back—not as loving,” he said. “You really realize how insignificant you are in this world, and life moves on whether you’re there or not.”

Overall, the Army says its domestic violence rates are no worse than for civilian families. However, critics say there is a lack of comprehensive, updated data that reflects the impact of war-zone deployments and tracks cases involving veterans, reservists and National Guard members.

The Miles Foundation, which provides domestic-violence as-

sistance to military wives, says its caseload has more than quadrupled during the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

“The tactics learned as part of military training are often used by those who commit domestic violence,” said the foundation’s executive director, Christine Hansen, citing increased proficiency with weapons and psychological tactics such as sleep deprivation.

Jackie Campbell is a nursing professor at Johns Hopkins who served on a Defense Department task force examining domestic violence. She says the military’s data on the problem is based only on officially reported incidents, and should be supplemented with confidential surveys such as some that were conducted before the Iraq war.

“They have no clue what the rate of domestic violence is—they only know what’s reported to the system, and that’s always lower than the actual rate,” Campbell said. “I’m disappointed.... I know the system is stressed to the umpteenth degree. But I do think they need to do the right kind of research so they can keep up with this.”

One complication, she said, is the high rate of post-traumatic stress disorder among service members returning from war. She said PTSD raises the risk of domestic violence, yet many soldiers and their spouses don’t want to acknowledge PTSD or any domestic crises for fear of derailing the soldier’s career.





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Orientations are available on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6 p.m., and Saturdays at 10 a.m. at the UOL office on the 4th floor of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

The first session will be on Wednesday, July 23, 2008.

**Please call for available slots prior to every orientation.**





# University of Loyola now accepting students

The University of Loyola at CNMI is now accepting local residents, guest workers and their families who want to pursue careers in health care. Classes start on Sept. 8. for school year 2008-2009.

Local residents and guest workers are eligible to participate in the university's "Study Now Pay Later" program.

Under the program, qualified students will only be paying 50 percent of their tuition in equal monthly increments every year. The other 50 percent will be paid after they graduate and find a job.

The University of Loyola offers a four-year Doctor of Medicine degree (M.D.), a four-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree (PharmD.), a two-year Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (ASDN), and a four-year Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) degree.

Nursing students who complete only six months of study at the university will be given a medical assistant certificate, with free extra units. Those who complete only a year of study will be given a health care administrative certificate.

The University of Loyola

also offers six-month review courses. They include TOEFL/IELTS review course, NCLEX review course for nurses, USMLE review course for doctors of medicine, NAPLEX review course for pharmacists, USMTE review course for medical technicians, and USNPTE review course for physical therapists.

"We are pleased to provide the opportunity for local residents, as well as guest workers and their families, to pursue careers in nursing, medicine and other health care fields. We look forward to welcoming you to our university. Education will go a long way in benefiting the CNMI and its population," said Dr. Johnny Y. Fong, chair-



Fong

man of the University of Loyola at CNMI's Board of Directors.

Dr. Fong anticipates huge local participation in the nursing program because nursing is

not only the most sought after profession in the United States but is also among the highest paid in the health care industry. Nursing graduates who pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) are eligible to migrate to the United States with green card or permanent residency status, along with their family.

For more information about the courses offered and eligibility requirements, attend the orientations every Monday and Wednesday at 6pm and every Saturday at 10am on the fourth floor of the Marianas Business Plaza.

The first orientation will be held on Wednesday, July 23.

The orientation is free, but prospective students need to confirm their attendance at least a day before every orientation. Call 234-8008 to reserve your seat.

Application forms can also be downloaded from the university Web site, [www.uolcnmi.com](http://www.uolcnmi.com)

The University of Loyola at CNMI is owned by the Loyola Medical College Foundation, a non-profit educational institution that also owns and operates San Beda College of Medicine, San Beda College of Nursing and St. Ignatius Health Science College in Manila. The foundation has affiliate companies in California that are ready and willing to hire graduates of the University of Loyola. (PR)

## DISCONNECTION NOTICE

PTI would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on July 22nd, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before July 22nd.

**THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION PTI CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE\*.**

Per an earlier announcement, PTI is no longer mailing out past due notices as of 11/01/06.

\* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than July 22nd. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4PTI (4784)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.



### The House of Representatives

SIXTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

## NOTICE OF VILLAGE MEETINGS

Date: July 18, 2008

Contact: Representative Joseph C. Reyes

Telephone: (670) 664-8836

Facsimile: (670) 664-8838

Congressman Joseph C. Reyes would like to hear your concerns and ideas affecting our community. Please come to our village meeting and make yourself heard in addressing the issues we are facing today.

#### San Vicente and Dandan

Dandan Elementary Cafeteria  
July 23, 2008 6pm

#### San Antonio

San Antonio Community Center  
July 30, 2008 6pm

#### Koblerville

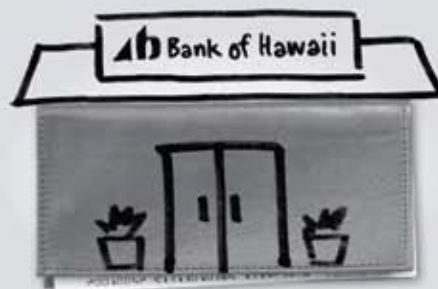
Southern High School Cafeteria  
Aug. 6, 2008 6pm

We appreciate your attendance.

Representative Joseph C. Reyes

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**Bank of Hawaii**



# 'Full asylum protection to be applied in NMI'

After the transition period of the federalization law, a full asylum protection system will be applied in the CNMI, according to federal Labor Ombudsman Jim Benedetto.

Under the full asylum system, people who are qualified for such protection can travel or go to the U.S. mainland.

"But in the year preceding the transition period which is right now until June 1, 2009, the Commonwealth will continue to operate its refugee protection program," said Benedetto during Saturday's forum organized by the Coalition of United

Workers (NMI) at the Kilili Beach pavilion.

After June 1, 2009, during the entire transition period, the federal government will administer what is called "withholding of removal," he said.

Under the "withholding of removal," alien workers who fear persecution or torture if they are returned to their home countries will not be forced to do so by the federal government.

Benedetto, however, stressed that it is not the same as full blown asylum under the Immigration and Naturalization Act, which will only begin after the

transition period.

"It is not quite the same as asylum but it does grant the minimal protections that the treaties require," he explained.

"So from now to June 1, it

is local CNMI refugee protection. From June 1, 2009, to the end of the transition period, it's 'withholding of removal.' We will not send you back. After the transition period, it's

full asylum protection," the ombudsman said.

The forum was intended for the Bangladeshi, Sir Lankans, Nepalese, and Indian communities. Over a hundred people

showed up at the forum.

A few Bangladeshi and Chinese nationals have reportedly sought refugee status under the local protection system. *(Ferdie dela Torre)*

## Francia named president of JL Finance Co.

Lee R. Francia has been appointed president of JL Finance Co., Inc., a new Saipan-based real estate and financing services firm.

Francia has more than 20 years experience in the banking business. She had held key positions during her stint at Home Federal Bank, Bank of Hawaii and Bank of Saipan.

Prior to her appointment at JL Finance, Francia was Bank of Saipan's assistant vice president and manager for the Credit and Collections Department, a position she held for nine years.

JL Finance's real estate services

include buying, selling and leasing land, buildings and homes. Its financial services focus on small and medium sized businesses.

JL Finance, which also purchases trust deeds and land lease mortgages, has investors from the U.S. mainland, Japan, Korea and the Philippines.

Francia has also been appointed chief financial officer of the University of Loyola at CNMI.

For more information, contact Lee R. Francia at 234-8004 or via e-mail at [lee.jlfinance@yahoo.com](mailto:lee.jlfinance@yahoo.com). *(PR)*

## Chamber to host federalization workshop

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host a workshop on Friday to address the growing concerns among local business leaders about the pending federal takeover of regulations on foreign labor.

In a statement released last week, the Chamber said a prominent immigration lawyer, Ladd Baumann, is slated to speak on the likely consequences of the takeover in a workshop at the

Pacific Island's Club.

Bauman, who practices law on Guam, has represented a host of high profile clients such as Citibank, Verizon, Exxon Mobil and Japan Airlines, according to his résumé. Moreover, he served as an assistant law professor at the University of Guam and as a part-time law lecturer at Navy bases for the University of Maryland.

The lecture, the Chamber said, will deal with the statutory lan-

guage of the recently signed federalization law and the potential implications of the federal immigration rules now being crafted. In addition, Baumann will give the business community an overview of the current immigration system in the United States, touching on issues like visa options. The workshop will conclude with a question-and-answer session.

This workshop will be held at Pacific Island Club's Napu

Room. It will include a short lunch in the club's Magellan Dining Room. The cost of the workshop is \$25 for Chamber members and \$35 for non-members. Seating is limited and reservations, which will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, must be made by the close of business on Wednesday, July 23 by emailing Sisi Alvarez at [coordinator@saipanchamber.com](mailto:coordinator@saipanchamber.com). *(Stefan Sebastian)*



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: July 10, 2008

Closing Date: Until Filled

JVA No. 08-019 Engineering Manager for Power Generation

JVA No. 08-020 Engineer (Mechanical, Electrical, and/or Civil Engineering)

LOCATION: CUC, VARIOUS DIVISIONS, SAIPAN.

For information on the duties and minimum qualifications, please stop by the Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer  
P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.  
Telephone (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131



### The House of Representatives

SIXTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

### RESCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Date: July 17, 2008

Contact: Representative Joseph C. Reyes

Telephone: (670) 664-8836

Facsimile: (670) 664-8838

The House Standing Committee on Commerce and Tourism will conduct a public hearing to receive testimonies for House Bill No. 16-31 "To Amend the Weapons Control Act to promote and allow Resort Developments offering target ranges for competitive rifle competitions and skeet shooting, and for other purposes."

The public hearing scheduled on July 26, 2008 in Rota has been rescheduled to:

**Thursday, July 24, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Round House, Songsong, Rota.**

Copies of the legislation may be obtained from the following places:

1. Request to the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes
2. It may be downloaded at [cnmileg.gov.mp](http://cnmileg.gov.mp).
3. Request for digital copy via email to [rep.jcreyes@gmail.com](mailto:rep.jcreyes@gmail.com)

Members of the general public are encouraged to submit written testimony on or before the public hearing. Oral testimony will be received during the public hearing. To submit written testimony prior to the public hearing, please drop-off or fax to the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes (664-8838) or may be mailed to P.O. Box 500586 Saipan, MP 96950. You can also submit your digital copies to [rep.jcreyes@gmail.com](mailto:rep.jcreyes@gmail.com).

For additional information, you may contact the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes.

Rep. Joseph C. Reyes  
Chairman

# SIZZLING DEALS

July 15 - July 31, 2008



**CDMA Motorola w385**  
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\* Some conditions apply. 24 month agreement required. Must sign up a 500 minute rate plan or higher to avail the special prices. Valid until July 31st or while supplies last.

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 Meat Sauce

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1 Cup Corn Soup

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Licensing board sets meeting

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, the Health Care Professions Licensing Board is giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on Thursday, July 24, 2008 at 3pm on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Secretary's Conference Room No. 2 at the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis Center, Lower Navy Hill, Saipan. (PR)

### Live fire training on Farallon

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam, said the U.S. military would be conducting live fire training on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla on July 21-25, from 7am to 7pm.

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla Training Area (R7201) on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from the area during the time and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (EMO)

### Late registration ongoing at Hopwood

Hopwood Jr. High School wishes to announce to students, parents, and/or guardians for incoming and off-island students that the late registration for this school year, 2008-2009 is ongoing until July 31. Please register your child now between 8am and 3pm daily. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call 237-3425, Registrar's Office. Don't forget proper documents—listed below—that may be needed when you register your child. All requests for transcripts and certifications must be requested in advance with a small fee upon receiving it on the same time indicated above.

- Official Transcript
- Health Transcript
- Birth Certificate
- Medical Insurance Card
- Entry Permit
- Legal Guardianship Documents

### Red Cross Health and Safety Training

The American Red Cross announces the following health and safety training for the month July 2008:

Adult CPR – July 26, 2008, Saturday, from 8am to 12pm

First Aid – July 26, 2008, Saturday, from 12pm to 5pm

Infant & Child CPR – August 9, 2008, Saturday, from 8am to 1pm.

The training fee for Adult CPR and First Aid is \$30.00 per person/per course and the training fee for the Infant & Child CPR is \$35.00 per person. A participant's booklet is required. Participant's booklet is \$5.00 each and is good for all three courses.

For more information, call the NMI Chapter Office at 234-3459. (PR)

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

#### July 21, 1999

##### PSS bats for \$48 million

Asking for a budget level that is more than what the administration said it can afford may be a struggle against defeat, but education officials are keeping their fingers crossed. At yesterday's Board of Education meeting, officials agreed to try to convince the Legislature that the Public School System needs to get \$48 million for fiscal year 2000.

##### FCC okays E-rate benefits for PSS

The Public School System's application for the Federal Communication Commission's Universal Service Program, also known as the educational rate (E-rate), has been approved, a PSS official said yesterday. Federal program coordinator Bill Matson said PSS has been notified by federal authorities that the CNMI's forms have been accepted, and that the "funding letter" would be out soon.

##### Teno lobbies for Korean Air

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has asked Korea's Ministry of Construction and Transportation to grant the request of Korean Airlines to provide a Seoul-Saipan direct service to boost traffic and revive the CNMI's ailing tourism economy. Visitor arrivals from Korea drastically declined after the pullout of Korean Air in August 1997 due to the tragic crash on nearby island Guam and the plunge of the Korean economy amid Asia's financial crisis.

#### July 21, 2000

##### Omnibus bill OK'd

Holding back-to-back sessions early last night, the Legislature finally cleared a compromise proposal on the Omnibus Labor and Business Reform Act which both houses hammered out with the Tenorio administration. HB 12-39 now heads to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for his signature, five months since the legislation, sponsored by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, was introduced in the lower house as one of its key economic measures.

##### Flat tax rate proposed

The House of Representatives yesterday began the process of reforming the islands' taxation system with a bill introduced by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial seeking to implement a flat tax rate scheme similar to those being proposed in the U.S. Congress. This will help revamp the current local tax code which lawmakers describe as "complex, inefficient, unfriendly to the creation of new jobs and business, punitive to existing workers and businesses, and unfair in its multiple tax rate structure."

##### DOF releases more rebate checks today

There is something Northern Marianas workers should be happy about: the second batch of rebate and refund checks will be released by the Revenue and Taxation Division of the finance department this weekend. Finance officials said some of the checks were mailed Thursday morning and should be in the post office boxes of the taxpayers by today. DOF last week released the first batch of 1999 income tax refunds and rebates, which total 9,213 ITRs.

#### July 21, 2003

##### CDC: NMI has 2 new AIDS cases

The CNMI has recorded two cases of AIDS this year, based on a latest report by the U.S. Centers for Disease and Prevention. In its July 4, 2003, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, the Atlanta-based CDC listed two cumulative AIDS cases for the CNMI under 2003.

##### HPMR, Hawaii hospitals lift suspension

It's back to normal for the Group Health and Life Insurance subscribers who are seeking off-island medical treatment. NMI Retirement Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes confirmed the good news Friday, saying that Group Health's third-party administrator, Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral, has lifted the suspension of the pre-certification for members—a necessary process for subscribers so that they would not be asked to pay up-front when they go to an on-island or off-island hospital. Reyes said that HPMR lifted the suspension effective July 1.

##### NMIRF's int'l investments swell to \$325M

Reflecting a stunning recovery, the NMI Retirement Fund's international investments grew to \$325.49 million in June, ending the second quarter with \$35.84 million more than the first quarter earnings. Investment figures provided by Merrill Lynch shows the Fund's investments in June surging past the \$289.64 million posted in March—the end of the first quarter—reflecting a 12.4-percent growth that outpaced all expectations.



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 Able to work a fulltime schedule which may include evenings and weekends

### Must have

High school diploma. Some college preferred.  
 Must have 1 year of experience in telecommunications  
 Must have at least 1 year of experience in outside sales.  
 Business/government sales preferred.  
 Valid CNMI driver's license, police and court clearance, and reliable transportation  
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SAIPANCELL offers competitive salary and benefits package to commensurate with experience and qualifications. Please submit resume immediately via email to [employment@guamcell.com](mailto:employment@guamcell.com). No phone calls.



# Igisomar nomination to Fund is withdrawn

Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez has withdrawn the appointment of Sixto Igisomar to the NMI Retirement Fund.

On April 2, 2008, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Igisomar to serve as a member of the Retirement Fund's board of trustees.

However, Villagomez, in his capacity as acting governor, withdrew the nomination due to technical reasons. The supporting documents were not submitted to the Senate during the 90-day window that the Upper House is given to act on the gubernatorial appointment.

The Executive Branch may still resubmit Igisomar's name.

Igisomar previously served as chairman of the Commonwealth Development Authority.



Villagomez

The seven-member board of trustees administers the Retirement Fund. Members of the Board of Trustees are appointed by the governor with the consent of the Senate. The law

requires the Board's composition to include three members representing Saipan, one each from Tinian and Rota, one from the Carolinian community, and one representing the women's interest. (Agnes E. Donato)

# 'Many support protest rally on Capital Hill'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The planned mass demonstration on Capital Hill to express people's frustration with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has been receiving support from many people, according to a lawmaker.

Rep. Tina Sablan said that people expressed support for the idea of holding a protest rally on Capitol Hill during the public forum held at the Chacha Oceanview Jr. High School in Kagman.

"They asked if the Legislature cares about their suffering and why the Legislature is not doing more to defend them and they demand from them a solution to these problems," Sablan told

Saipan Tribune on Saturday.

With respect to the CUC-Aggreko contract, the lawmaker said people told the forum they don't support it.

During Friday's back-to-back legislative session, some of the people who attended the forum came to the session, she said.

"We invited them to testify on their comments about the bill [payment for Aggreko and other power producers]. Unfortunately the bill passed anyway. It was already arranged beforehand. That was unfortunate," Sablan said.

She said the passage of the bill actually confirms the sentiment of a lot of people: that

when the Legislature acts that way, "there is little regard for their thoughts and their feelings and their sense of what direction public interest should go."

Sablan said the battle continues and that the CUC problems remain unsolved.

No date has been set yet on the planned demonstration but "it should happen soon," she said.

Sablan said she and *MP Magazine* publisher Ed Propst, who organized the forum, were very happy with the outcome of the Kagman forum.

Although there were a couple of rosaries in Kagman at the time, she said over 70 people still showed up at the forum.

Reps. Rosemond Santos and Ed Salas also attended the forum.

Sablan said people are very motivated to do everything they can to reduce their utility bills.

"Some people said I don't want to pay another penny to CUC more that I have to," she said.

Last month, over 200 people showed up at the public forum held at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe where they vented their frustrations with CUC, offered solutions, and called for its privatization.



Sablan

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ASIA PACIFIC ASSOCIATION  
FOR FIDUCIARY STUDIES

The **8th** Annual Pacific Region  
Investment Conference  
OCTOBER 9 - 10, 2008 MANILA, PHILIPPINES  
www.apafs.org • admin@apafs.org

## About the Conference

The Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies (APAFS) will hold its **8th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference in Manila, Philippines on October 9-10, 2008 at the Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Makati City Hotel.**

The Annual Investment Conference boasts of world-renowned experts and global leaders as lecturers and moderators. This year's keynote speaker is legendary contrarian investor **Dr. Marc Faber**, Editor and Publisher of "The Gloom, Boom & Doom Report" (www.gloomboomdoom.com), a monthly newsletter on unusual investment opportunities. He is known for his alternative views and lifestyle, and believes that when one "...follow(s) the course opposite to custom, you will almost always be right." A regular contributor to leading financial publications around the world, Dr. Faber is also the author of "TOMORROW'S GOLD - Asia's Age of Discovery", which enjoyed several weeks on Amazon's bestseller list and has been translated to five different languages. Aside from being associated with a variety of funds and serving in the Board of Directors of numerous companies, he is also the CEO and President of Marc Faber Limited.

Also among the conference's notable speakers is the Philippines' **Senator Edgardo Angara**, author of PERA Law and Philippine Pension Reform. Likewise making an appearance are **Connie Mullis**, Vice President of ProfitSharing/401k Council of America; **Geri Marullo**, President & CEO of Consuelo Foundation; **Margaret Ang**, CFA of Janus Capital Asia Ltd.; **Simon Rudolph**, ACA of Franklin Templeton Investments; and **Frank W. Crawford**, President of Crawford & Associates, PC among others.

APAFS is a non-profit organization affiliated with a group of sponsors who generously lend their support and valuable inputs not

only to the institution but also to the conference. **Gerard Cruz**, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Association, shares his enthusiasm with all the top-level speakers who will be making time for the Conference, "We are delighted that the Association can offer speakers of such caliber and variety from around the world at this year's conference."

**Daniel A. Roland**, Executive Director of APAFS, says that membership of the Association in the Philippines has remarkably grown since the Conference is now on its third year in the country. He also foresees more than 300 delegates to attend the conference. Moreover, Roland shares, "This year, the Association is seeing an increase in attendance with the additional interest coming from Pacific Forum member countries around the Pacific, as well as the usual strong support from the United States, Micronesia and other traditional regions."

The two-day conference will address the present international trends in the industry as well as discuss fiduciary practices and implementations that are more suitable to the Asia Pacific region. On its third year in the Philippines, the Conference has attracted over 300 fiduciary experts and practitioners from all across the globe.

Well-known financial companies in the Asia Pacific Region that include Citi Smith Barney Consulting Group, Franklin Templeton Institutional, Janus Capital Asia Ltd., and Atlanta Sosnoff Capital Management will be the sponsors of the event.

For more information about APAFS and the 8th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference sign-up details, you may directly access their website at [www.apafs.org](http://www.apafs.org) or contact their administrator at [admin@apafs.org](mailto:admin@apafs.org).

## Registration Information

☐ **Yes!** Please register me for the  
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Investment Conference**

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- Dial **1-671-649-8883**
- Send to **admin@apafs.org**
- Send to  
**P.O. Box 3191 Hagåtña,  
Guam 96932**

### Fees:

- ☐ Individual Registration Fee  
**\$150 USD/person**
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(For 2 or more participants)  
**Number of participants  
at \$100 USD/person**

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## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES

#### SERVICES REQUIRED

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), a public corporation of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is inviting interested insurance brokers, singularly or in partnership with others, to submit technical proposals for providing insurance brokerage services to CPA. Interested insurance brokers must be licensed in the Northern Mariana Islands and have a current business license.

#### THE PROCESS

The process will consist of the receipt and evaluation of sealed proposals for technical services. The proposals should demonstrate the ability of the brokers to perform and provide the services enumerated in the Scope of Services stipulated in the Request For Proposal (RFP). At the conclusion of the evaluation process, the highest rated broker will be selected to negotiate fees for services with CPA. If successful, the broker will be appointed as CPA's exclusive insurance representative on a year-to-year basis for a period not to exceed five years.

#### SCOPE OF SERVICES

The selected broker shall assist CPA in obtaining insurance coverages consisting of Airport and Seaport Property and Liability insurance, Automobile, Crime, and Director's & Officer's Liability insurance and providing such other services as may be subsequently negotiated.

#### PACKAGES & SUBMITTAL DATE

Proposal packages will be available beginning Monday, June 30, 2008, at the CPA Administrative Offices, Saipan International Airport, between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays. Five copies of the sealed proposals shall be submitted to Mr. Lee C. Cabrera, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, POB 1055, Saipan International Airport, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 4:00 P.M., Monday, July 21, 2008.

#### EVALUATION

The factors to be used in evaluating the proposals shall be the criteria set forth in the RFP. Each criteria will be assigned a grading up to ten points; the proposer receiving the highest overall score will be selected to negotiate a fee for services. The CPA reserves the right to reject any proposals in accordance with Section 3.2(7) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

If there are any questions relative to this notice, interested parties are asked to contact Ms. Frances Mafnas, Acting Comptroller, at 664-3524 anytime during the hours stated above.

/s/ LEE C. CABRERA  
Acting Executive Director/Contracting Officer



## Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**JVA# 08-005**

OPENING DATE: July 21, 2008 CLOSING DATE: August 5, 2008

POSITION: **Executive Secretary (Board)**  
LOCATION: **Saipan**

**NATURE OF WORK:** Primary responsibility is to provide office support services to ensure timely and efficient conduct of business by the Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission (Board). The use of independent judgment, initiative and discretion is essential as the employee is entrusted with confidential records and files. The incumbent shall utilize standard office equipment plus a computer and transcribing machine and work under the supervision of the Board and Administrator.

**COMPENSATION:** The starting compensation range for this position is set at Pay Level 29/01, or \$21,506.41 per annum, plus other benefits as mandated by law.

**OTHERS:** Interested individuals may pick up an application and the complete Position Description from the NMI Retirement Fund, Capitol Hill, Saipan. All application packages must be received at the Fund office no later than **5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 5, 2008**; applications will be accepted by e-mail and/or postal mail. **Late or incomplete application packages will not be accepted.** Packages must be marked "JVA# 08-005 Confidential." Interested applicants must submit their **application, resume, educational credentials and police clearance** addressed to the following:

**Mark Aguon, Administrator**  
**NMI Retirement Fund**  
**P.O. Box 501247**  
**Saipan, MP 96950-1247**  
**E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com**



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### Off-shore drilling

With oil costing about \$130 a barrel and an American public increasingly antsy about gasoline prices resting comfortably above \$4 a gallon, President Bush ratcheted up the pressure on Congress this week to open the Outer Continental Shelf to oil drilling by rescinding the executive order prohibiting such exploration. There's just one catch: For the president's action to take effect, Congress has to lift its own ban, which has been in place since 1983. And that's not going to happen.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid, D-Nev., oppose giving states the power to permit offshore drilling for oil because—as they correctly point out—drilling for the estimated 18 billion barrels of oil underneath the Outer Continental Shelf would have no immediate impact on the pain consumers are feeling at the pump. Yet, after spending the Fourth of July recess getting an earful from their constituents about high gas prices, they feel the need to do something. Thus the recent push for the passage of “use it or lose it” legislation that would force the oil companies to use the offshore oil leases they already have. Reid's office released a series of statistics on the number of acres “not producing oil” and “not being drilled.” That tally makes three assumptions: that in a time of record prices Big Oil would let viable areas sit untapped; that every lease represents a guarantee of oil; and that areas not producing or not being drilled are inactive.

The Shell Perdido project off Galveston, Texas, shows the weakness both of President Bush's proposal and the Democratic response. After winning five leases for ultra-deepwater tracts in 1996, Shell had to submit an exploration plan and secure a number of environmental permits. Oil was found in 2002. This required the company to file a resource development plan, including an oil spill response strategy, before it could build any infrastructure. Building of the spar hull, a partially submerged cylinder upon which the production platform will sit, was not sanctioned until 2006; it arrived in Texas last month. The production facilities are now being constructed. During that 12-year timeline, all of Shell's five leases have been classified as “nonproducing.” According to Shell, “The platform is capable of producing 130,000 barrels of oil equivalent (or 100,000 barrels of oil and 200,000 cubic feet of (natural) gas per day)” when production finally begins “around the turn of the decade.”

“To reduce pressure on prices ... we need to increase the supply of oil, especially here at home,” Bush said on Monday from the Rose Garden. He's right. But that can't happen soon, and what's needed in the meantime is an increase in the supply of political courage to bring about a bipartisan energy policy that is rooted in long-term solutions rather than short-term political gain. With six months to go in Bush's term and Congress about to go away for the summer, Washington is going to hit a dry well.

(c) 2008, The Washington Post



## A bountiful harvest and we don't realize it

God has blessed our islands with fertile soil, ample rainfall, and year round good weather so that we can grow much of our basic food. This fact is shown every Saturday morning at the Sabalu Market (Farmers' Market) on Beach Road located just before the World Resort Hotel and across the Marianas High School. Spread out before us are fresh locally grown vegetables and fruits. If you haven't been there lately, let me take you on a tour.

The market opens at 6:30 in the morning and closes about 11am, depending upon the number of buyers. The market is laid out with two rows of stalls with a walkway between them. Each stall has a small green tent over it to protect it from the sun and sometimes the rain. Under each tent is spread out an array of fresh locally grown vegetables and fruits. Each farmer has proudly selected his best fruits and vegetables to offer us.

Along with the splendid collection of locally grown vegetables and fruits is a gourmet feast of local food prepared on the spot. For example, we can enjoy boiled corn on the cob, tamales, *bibinka*, tapioca pudding, corn soup, *potu*, *ahu*, *apigigi* and other foods. (Forgive my spelling for some of the local foods.) We can enjoy them along with fresh coconut juice or a mango smoothie. These are foods not regularly sold in stores. I enjoy sampling different ones each Saturday.

The vegetables range from cucumbers, pumpkins, and kankun to petchay, eggplant, sweet potatoes, taro, tomatoes, corn, sugarcane stalks, and many other vegetables. The various selections of fruits are my favorite. There spread out are different types of bananas—either for eating or cooking—along with pineapples, avocados, papayas, and some other local fruit I keep forgetting the name of but very delicious.

I never realized the large variety of vegetables and fruits grown in Saipan until I visited the Sabalu Market. I purchase all my vegetables there and most of the daily fruits my family enjoys. And the price is right.

In addition to the locally grown vegetables and fruits, we can get the locally raised fresh chilled Marianas Sweet Shrimp and even freshly caught fish. Oh, I almost forgot the beautiful orchids and plants offered there—a magnificent display.

Despite the fact that all of these foods are priced below supermarket prices and are fresh, I have to admit that I do not see too many locals shop there. I see some of us but I see quite a few more customers of various nationalities. Why is that? Please come out and support the local farmers.

One of the more pleasant features of the market is that it's Saturday morning and a good place to bump into old friends wearing a smile. By being there every Saturday, I have become reacquainted with many friends that I have not seen for some time. And the pleasant thing is everyone is smiling and seems relaxed as he or she walks from stall to stall, touching and pinching the vegetables and fruits.

This market reminds me of when I was a child many years ago

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.*



in Pennsylvania. My mother would take my brother and me along early in the morning to our local Farmers' Market. There she would buy fresh vegetables, fruits, and meat. But the best part was that live chickens were also sold. They were penned in cages. My mother would ask the farmer to take a chicken out. Then she would feel under the neck for how fat it felt. From her magic touch she would either buy the live chicken or request to feel another one.

With the live chicken wrapped in a newspaper, my brother and I had a jolly time walking home with the chicken tucked under our arms. When we got home, my father would tie it up from its feet upside down. I was asked to boil a big pot of water.

After a few minutes my dad would stretch the chicken's neck until it died. Then it was plunged into the pot of boiling water. This made the feathers easy to pull off. Guess who had to pull off the feathers? Yes, me. But I was glad I didn't have to gut it. Talk about fresh chicken.

I still enjoy these delightful memories of the vast display of fruits and vegetables all grown by the local farmers.

In the CNMI we have a group of dedicated men who till the land daily to produce fresh vegetables and grow fresh fruit. With pride they display and offer them to us and at a fair price. We should be glad that they continue to produce the fruits and vegetables for us. Let us support them more.

I wish we could also sell fresh meat from livestock raised here. For some reason the government has never considered it important enough to support a local U.S. federally approved slaughter house. What a shame and what a loss!

This farmers' market represents a small fraction of what we can produce locally. I lament that so much of our land lies unplanted. For what reason are we not working it? The fruits and the vegetables grown can be easily sold. We can export some of it to Guam. We can sell it also to our tourists. Farming is a basic industry and a noble trade.

Have you noticed the many roadside vegetable stalls lately being erected all over the island? Most of them are operated by Chinese farmers. I am both glad and sad to see this. I am glad to see that some industrious people are taking advantage of our bountiful land. At the same time I am sad to see that almost none of our local people are erecting vegetable stalls to sell their produce.

See A BOUNTIFUL on next page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Celebrating the de-inauguration of CO 895

It was a convenient turn to those who frequently traveled to Pea Eye to go directly from one airport to another. That was what the biweekly Continental Airlines flight 895 offered, a direct travel between Manila and Saipan. The previous option was to connect to an originating or a terminating flight in Guam. This was cumbersome and uncomfortable, not to mention a downgrade of aircraft and passenger care in the Saipan-Hagatna segment of the trip. Also, there were those who did not qualify for a transit visa through Guam so they had to travel through Japan or Korea. CO 895 served the CNMI medical referrals to Manila, NCLEX takers, and the alien contract workers who could not transit in Guam. The non-US visa holders particularly were Air Micronesia's captive audience.

That came to an end Wednesday when the last direct Saipan-Manila flight was terminated.

To be sure, there are those of us who find going through Tokyo on NWA not only cheaper but would also provide time to finish a good read or polish a report during the long wait in Narita. There is the duty free shop offering in Tokyo that is considerably more extensive than that obtainable in our Chamorro neighbor's shop, but the irritating, bewildering and unnecessary stopover in Nagoya precludes any liquid purchases that might be confiscated by security.

If one travels frequently enough to earn a WorldPerks entry into any of the STAR alliance lounges, however, well, what can one say? The ambience and amenities are great for doing reading or office work while in transit, or one can even take advantage of the shower privileges, should one have rushed into the flight from work and needed to really freshen up before a meeting!

When a lady passenger lamented the demise of the route, I optimistically opined that perhaps, with the federalization of immigration procedures in the CNMI, transit visas through Guam for Manila-bound passengers would no longer be too difficult to attain, or even be necessary. Of course, I did not have any factual basis for saying that, although it bears asking, "why would it still be difficult to transit through Guam?"

The above was similar to the answer I gave the Channel 2 MCV crew covering this termination flight when they showed up at the departure gate to ask for passengers' responses to this event (not a TV viewer myself, I did not know that the young

lady was covering the event for the 'Balita' program, and style-wise, I would have given her my vintage Ilocano accent to the *makatang* Balagtas tongue).

Aboard this route-terminating flight, I kept asking one of the stewardesses when it was that I was going to get the Captain's complimentary celebrative de-inaugurating champagne drink, and she was game enough to quip that if she had her way, all the passengers would get a bottle.

Her response was no comfort to this old coot who had the misfortune of sitting immediately behind the first class section where I enviously watched the unfolding of the table clothes and the drawing of the real china and utensils, along with what seems to be a bottomless supply of red or white wine. It was too close that the brain tricked the palate to actually experience the taste of the ample meal being served. Of course, my section only got our aluminum foil-enclosed and saran wrap-encased viands and treats.

The declared reason for the cancellation of the route was the decline in patronage as a result of the NCLEX being now available to Filipino nurses in Manila, instead of coming over to Saipan to take it. I counted 37 empty seats in the 153-seater plane, a 75 percent use, which is below the 80 percent occupancy I was made to understand necessary to make the company come out even on the cost of the flight.

The longer view, of course, is that the Continental Airlines service to Micronesia decline with the break-up of the US Trust Territories into smaller political units that no longer required the coordinative function of an administrative office like that played previously by Saipan.

It also did not help that the cost of aviation fuel has recently increased. Non-revenue earning routes would be chopped for economic reasons, as has happened across the board to all airlines in the region.

Ironically, this year marks the 40th year anniversary of Air Micronesia's service to the region, and the stewardess' spiel at the end of the flight was a word of gratitude to the passengers for joining the company in the celebration of this marked event. At that point, I was ready to barge into the cockpit to request for my champagne drink from the Captain, but I did not wish to tangle with the flight marshal who I am sure would have only been happy to display his/her anger management skills.

By **JAIME VERGARA**

*Special to the Saipan Tribune*



*Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.*

Organized to serve the then United Nations-mandated U. S. Trust Territories with its main headquarters on Saipan, Air Micronesia had a virtual monopoly as the contracted official carrier in the region. By sound economic practice, the service would have had to be commercially profitable in order to ensure continuance of service in the region. Missing the profitability factor, Continental Airlines that operates Air Mike understandably pulled out of the non-lucrative market as well. Dis-inaugurated CO 895 was not only ending a route, it also marked the withdrawal of resident Continental Airlines personnel from the Commonwealth. Henceforth, the Saipan market will be serviced by Guam, and retrenched Saipan staff that did not make the move will now join our enlarging count at the unemployment line.

Since 1997, the island economy began learning how to graciously let go of folding businesses in anticipation of the sunset years of the beleaguered garment industry. Sobering dusk came a decade later and the scramble for a viable economic base has produced inter-cine squabbles primarily in government, and a dire shortage of vision. The old metaphor was: Who will turn off the lights when the last sweatshop closes?

There has not been a shortage of doomsday predictions in our local dailies about the destination of our local economy. Perhaps, we just need to learn how to celebrate the de-inauguration of some of our taken-for-granted destinations. Then move on. A final caveat: it would not have hurt CO's PR to have served that complimentary drink to accompany its twilight song between the Saipan-Manila skies!

CO will return me to Saipan on a milk run through Palau and Yap. I got the time and I had never been to either place before. See? When a door closes, somehow a new window of opportunity opens.

## Incredible WWII legends found in Pacific

SAIPAN—For a week I've been traveling on Saipan and Guam, coming to learn three startling World War II legends relating to these two U.S. territories in the far-Western Pacific so distant from mainland America in mileage, culture and history.

One of these legends, which its adherents insist is true, is patently false, according to most reliable historians. The other two, all agree, are 100 percent valid.

The highly-dubious legend refers to the July 1, 1937, mysterious disappearance of famed aviator Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, who were en route in their twin-engine Lockheed Electra from Lae, New Guinea, to Howland Island in the Pacific during their round-the-world flight.

After departing New Guinea, Earhart, Noonan and their aircraft vanished. A massive search by U.S. Navy vessels was unsuccessful, and today, 71 years later, the search continues. Some believe the Electra ran out of gas and fell into the sea, killing the pair instantly. Others believe the plane crashed on a deserted island, and the fliers ultimately died of exposure and starvation.

Here on Saipan, capital of the U.S. Territory of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, I've heard an astonishingly radical thesis: Earhart and Noonan somehow managed to reach Saipan, land their airplane just as its fuel was running out, and then were captured by the Japanese who had held this island since the end of WW I in 1917 when they purchased it from Germany.

CBS newsman Fred Goerner published a book in 1966 advancing this theory that two U. S. marines claimed they saw Earhart's plane inside a Japanese military hangar after United States forces liberated Saipan in 1944, and several native Saipanese have sworn they saw Earhart and Noonan being held in a Japanese prison on this island.

Other Saipanese have pointed out the fliers' graves, but no bones

have been found in the alleged graves. The jail site still exists here, and visitors are shown the cell where Earhart and Noonan reportedly were held.

Another far-fetched theory is that Earhart managed to escape from Saipan, reach the U.S., and live out her life in New Jersey under an assumed name.

"All of these theories of Earhart and Noonan landing here are just nonsense. They undoubtedly died in the ocean or on deserted Gardner Island," says Northern Marianas College history professor Samuel F. McPhetres, a 30-year Saipan resident.

"But the Saipan angle makes good reading, so it will never go away until proven wrong," he said.

In 1943, the feature film "Flight for Freedom," starring Rosalind Russell and Fred MacMurray, alleged in its plot that Earhart was spying on the Japanese under U.S. orders and was executed when her plane landed here. A new movie titled "Amelia" starring Richard Gere and Hilary Swank is to be released in 2009, but it is unknown what theory it will develop regarding the fliers' disappearance.

Meanwhile, on Guam, 125 miles south of here, the two legends that no one doubts whatsoever relate to a U.S. Navy enlisted radioman and a Japanese Army sergeant who hid out from Japanese and U.S. forces, respectively, during and after World War II.

Navy radioman George Tweed, who hid for 31 months from the Japanese on Guam until the island's liberation by the U.S. in 1944, lived in a succession of caves and was aided by local natives. Several of them and U.S. prisoners were tortured and beheaded by the Japanese for refusing to give up the elusive Tweed.

Known as the "Caveman of Guam" and "The Robinson Crusoe of Guam," Tweed was able to signal U.S. destroyers by a mirror and signal flags just a few days before U.S. forces stormed the island and was rescued. He was awarded the Legion of Merit and wrote

I hope someone sees the golden opportunity waiting for a farmers' market that could be opened in a large warehouse. Then all of the above vegetables, fruits, aquaculture products, and locally made handicrafts can be displayed for sale daily to our residents as well to our tourists. It is an opportunity knocking! There are many vacant warehouses where this type of enterprise can be started with only a small investment.

By **DAVID C. HENLEY**

*Publisher Emeritus*



*David C. Henley is Publisher Emeritus of the LVN.*

a book titled "Robinson Crusoe, USN," which subsequently was turned into the 1962 movie, "No Man is an Island" starring Jeffrey Hunter and Marshall Thompson. Tweed died in 1989 at the age of 89 following a Northern California automobile crash.

The Japanese soldier who hid from the Americans was Sgt. Shoichi Yokoi, who eluded U.S. troops on Guam for an incredible 28 years, hiding in caves and scouring in garbage cans for food and eating plants, roots and nuts to survive until being found at the age of 56 by two hunters. When examined by U.S. Army doctors upon his capture, he was found amazingly well and fit.

He regaled incredulous newspaper reporters with his life in hiding, describing how he made shrimp traps from bamboo, rope from coconut fiber, bags from hibiscus fiber, rat traps from string and wire and a cooking pot from a cut-up canteen.

Yokoi said his favorite food was rat liver. He was allowed to return to his family in Japan, which had long given him up for dead. He died in 1997 at the age of 82.

Before his death, Sgt. Yokoi confessed to Japanese reporters that he hid out all those years not in fear of the Americans, but because he did not commit suicide, an act his military superiors had told him was more heroic than being captured.

I'll look for you at the Sabalu Market next Saturday morning. Bring the children. Stop by and say hello or wave as you stroll by. Let's not forget that Saipan can produce much of our fresh food without importing it. Also fresh is better than aged fruits and vegetables from outside the CNMI. And the price is right. We have greater possibilities than we realize. Support our local farmers! See you at the Sabalu Market next Saturday morning!

## A BOUNTIFUL

*From Page 10*






We should learn from these industrious people. Instead, we are allowing others to take advantage of what we should be doing. Farmers, take note—unless we start competing, we will eventually lose any advantage we have to others for selling vegetables and fruits.



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲88 ▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼78
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88 ▼79
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲90 ▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲89 ▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼77

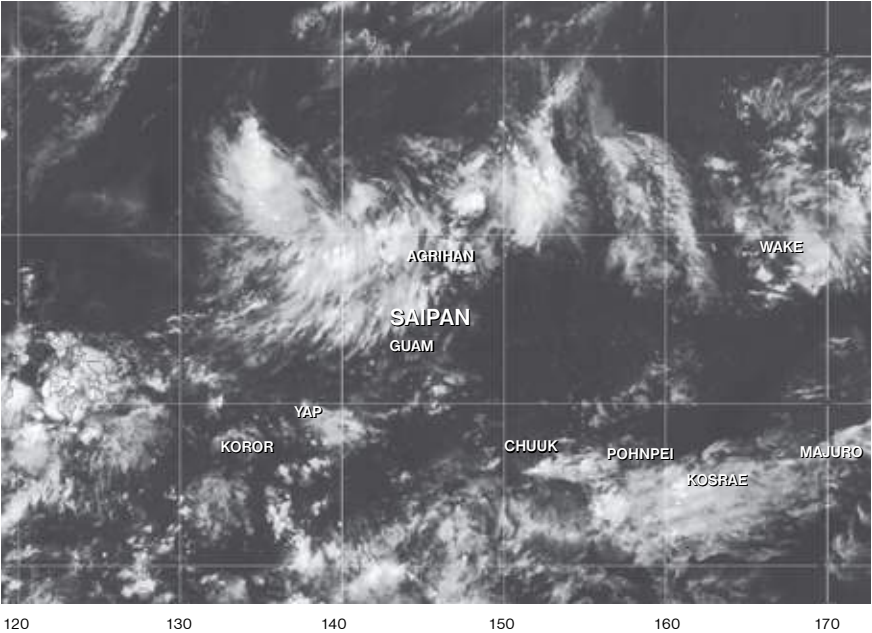
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Sunny	▲57 ▼52
Beijing	Partly Sunny	▲95 ▼75
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲90 ▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲85 ▼76
London	Partly Sunny	▲70 ▼52
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼66
Manila	Cloudy	▲91 ▼76
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲58 ▼43
Miami	Showers	▲91 ▼79
New York	Thundershowers	▲90 ▼72
Osaka	Cloudy	▲91 ▼76
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲70 ▼51
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲84 ▼75
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲85 ▼63
Salem	Cloudy	▲83 ▼54
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲71 ▼55
Seoul	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼71
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▼75
Washington, DC	Hot	▲96 ▼75

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
3:51AM Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
8:38AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:48PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
10:38PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 12:30PM, SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2008**  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low pressure is centered at 22N143E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with this system are west and north of the Mariana Islands within a line from 25N134E to 24N155E to 12N141E then back to 25N133E. An upper-level low is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms around Wake Island or within an area bounded by a line from 25N163E to 20N173E to 15N166E back to 25N163E. Low level convergence is causing small areas of showers and thunderstorms southwest of Palau within 75 miles of a line from 6N133E to 2N136E and southeast of Yap within 50 miles of a line from 9N139E to 7N142E. Trade-wind convergence is enhancing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Pohnpei across Kosrae and the central Marshall Islands within 150 miles of a line from 3N157E extending eastward past 8N180.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:56AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:57AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:57AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:57AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:57AM	6:50 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:54PM	8:09AM
Tuesday	9:31PM	9:00AM
Wednesday	10:09PM	9:51AM
Thursday	10:09PM	9:51AM
Friday	11:30PM	11:38AM

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN**  
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

- For announcements:**
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 18, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 099 5:00am 7:40am Daily NW 078 8:55am 2:00pm Daily NW 075 4:45pm 7:25pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:15am 2:55pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:30am+1 Daily NW 100 8:45pm 1:25am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:20pm 7:05pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:55am 11:35am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:50am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 3:50am 7:20am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:20pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 6:40pm 9:25pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)	

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

- Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
  - \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
  - Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Got hot water?

With the soaring rates for CUC power, most of us are finding it nearly impossible to pay the added expense of heating water for home use, one of the single largest users of power in the home. Problem is most of us are real wimps when it comes to taking that c-o-o-l-d shower! Under current conditions, a standard 20- or 30-gallon water heater, hidden somewhere in the bowels of your home, costs around \$100 - \$150 or so every month—and that's just to have a tank full of hot water waiting for you to use it, whether you do so or not. Some have resorted to turning off the monster for most of the day and just turning it on long enough for that shower. But this also uses a large amount of power because you still must heat that whole tank full of water—20-30 gallons or so—even though it usually takes only about five gallons for a decent shower!

Well, there are some things you can do to lower the cost and still get that coveted hot shower. Several stages suitable for every

homeowner, ranging from the Cadillac to the horse and carriage are available. The Cadillac, of course being a real good solar water heater. The best one consists of a solar panel on the roof and a separate tank in the house. A complete unit, ready to install, can be ordered in Hawaii and including shipping will run an almost even \$3,000. This unit will cut your power for water heating by about 90 percent, so in about 30 months, you will have paid off the investment and henceforth get almost free hot water. I know because I have one and the hot water will last a few days even in bad weather. If interconnected properly to CUC, you can have hot water all the time, but now your CUC bill will be reduced by less than 90 percent. Mine is interconnected, but has not yet cost me more than \$5 even in the rainiest month.

Some local ones sold here have a built-in tank on the roof and go for around \$600 to \$1,000—each. I don't really like this kind, because I have found that they are somewhat

less reliable and efficient, especially at night or during rainy periods. But they will help and will reduce your water heating bill from 50 percent or above. All of these are "whole-house" water heaters, so you can have hot water in the kitchen, laundry, vanity and tub/shower.

The next step down is a "tank-less electric whole house water heater." These can be bought at several dealers on the Internet and run anywhere from \$400 to \$700 depending on how many hot water outlets you need. They use an electric coil inside a box that heats only the water that you use. The water passes through the box when you open a hot water faucet, activates the coils, and you get hot water for as long as the faucet is open. These units can save you 75 to 85 percent on your water heating bill. If it's only the shower you want heated, you can get the lowest cost unit and save around 85 percent or more of the bill. They're really easy to install and require anywhere from 230 amp breakers to 240

amp breakers.

Another step down is to get an "electric shower head water heater." These units can be bought for around \$70, attach right to the shower head and plug into a 110 volt outlet (at 30 amps) at least 6 feet from the shower. They are extremely efficient, heat water *only* when you turn on the shower and will save around 90 to 95 percent off the CUC bill for heating water. The best one available in the U.S. is made by Marey—works like a charm and ultra easy to install. With this type of unit, the only place you'll have hot water in the house is at the shower, but do you really need it anywhere else? Be careful, though—buy only the U.S. certified one as foreign made units typically

operate on 220 volts and pose a risk of shock in the shower!

And finally, for those who want to save 100 percent of the CUC cost of heating water, there's this: Ever notice how hot the water gets in that garden hose you left on the lawn during the day? Simply purchase, or find a 100 foot length of 1 or 1 ½ inch diameter flexible black plastic seamless water pipe and coil it up on your roof. Then connect a cold water inlet on one end and your existing hot water piping on the other. You'll probably also need a pressure relief valve in the line so the heated water doesn't build up too much pressure and burst the line and don't forget to secure it down so high winds don't blow it around—or off. There'll be enough hot wa-

ter in that pipe on the roof for at least two to four showers before you use it all up and must wait for it to re-heat in the sun. Need more hot water? Buy a longer plastic pipe. Advice: take showers at mid-day and be careful as the temperature in the tube can rise to 180 degrees or more! I'm sure some of you can also come up with unique ways to adapt all of this to your own needs.

Or, if your neighbors don't mind, you could just stand at the edge of the eave of your roof as that mid-afternoon rain shower rolls off that hot roof, just be sure the rain lasts long enough for the rinse cycle! Good luck—and let's lower those bills.

**Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.**  
San Jose, Tinian

## The youth speaks out

The article that Ed Propost has written about a few crises that Fitial and CUC are experiencing is hilarious. I thank you for writing that magnificent piece of article. It made me realize what has been going on. At first, all I knew was that our governor was threatening to sue the U.S. government. As a teenager, I have other things to focus on, but as I hear my parents complain about the power outages and how the lawsuit will affect the CNMI, I started to read the newspapers more often instead of just the zodiac section. As I go on, I've discovered so many dismaying news, including the fact that you signed a contract with Aggreko instead of Lohrman, which costs less. Mr. Propst has written so many articles that he may possibly be right, but the article that he wrote on June 27, 2008 really surprised me. It was pragmatic, a well-written article. Mr. Fitial, why have you decided to threaten the US government? I find it ironic. Instead of being prodigal and using the tax money for the lawsuit, try focusing on sending out the stimulus to the people who have not receive

them yet. The government uses our tax money for their needs, so why use it for something that our people are against like suing the federal government?

The government is all about "we the people," not just the governor and the government. Instead of using that money for something that will just destroy us, why don't you use it for something that will brighten the future for the students, like sending the money to the scholarship programs here in the CNMI.

Another crisis that has been going on is the power outages here. It's irritating to have our power go off twice a day for two months. How will my parents who earn minimum wages be able to pay that off? All the money goes to the CUC billings and the gas for our car. I know that others have been going through the problem as well. We are not able to support each other by buying food. I'm tired of soba and canned food. It's not only Mr. Propst who has been receiving busy signals, clueless operators, or hang-ups; we have gotten them too, so as many others. Mr. Propst

has stated "have a person record the problem and update it every half and hour on an automated answering machine so we won't be left in the dark."

Also, we have been receiving generous amounts of money from the U.S. government to help us build a better community but what would happen if they turn against us because of your doing, Mr. Fitial? Have you thought about that? Please scrutinize your every action because it will affect the people greatly. I'm appealing to you not to sue the federal government. I'm too overwhelmed by what is going on. What happened to the promise you made? "Better times?" I think not. Please take time to listen to the people here in the CNMI before you create more damaging effects here.

Please try to understand my presumptuous words. I was just moved to express myself, thanks to Mr. Edward Propst. Now I'm asking others to express themselves, like I have.

**Ciara Orsanel**  
As Lito, Saipan

## Protecting tourists

My cousin, who is visiting from Manila, my daughter and another friend went to the Street Market last Tuesday. They were watching the cultural show when my cousin noticed a bulky guy who was standing near them trying to pick the pocket of a Japanese woman. When he saw the man looked at him, seemingly tell-

ing him not to say anything, he got scared and left the place as fast as he could.

That night when he was telling us what he saw, I told him that he should have reported it to the police station near the area. He's a visitor and didn't know what to do.

I'm writing to ask the DPS commissioner to deploy enough

police officers to the street market to protect the tourists. This is not the first time I've heard of reports of pickpockets being spotted in the street market. We don't want these tourists to leave with sad stories to tell back home.

**Irene N. Tantiado**  
Capital Hill, Saipan



**Sand Castle**  
DINNER THEATER  
A BALDYGA ENTERPRISE  
SAIPAN

Featuring...  
**The Magic of Chris & Ryan**

**SUMMER SPECIAL**  
\$30 per adult / \$10 per child  
**Show Only**

Drinks not included. Child age is 2-11 years old.  
Limited Seating Available. Strictly No Seat Requests.  
This Promotion is valid for the month of July 2008 only.

**SHOW TIME:**  
1st Show: 7:00pm  
2nd Show: 8:45pm  
Call TODAY at 233-8585  
to book your reservations.  
For CNMI Residents Only. Local ID Required.





**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**  
**DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING**  
Second Floor Afetria Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995



**NOTICE OF HEARINGS PENDING DENIAL APPEALS**  
**FOR JULY 24, 25, 31, 2008 & AUGUST 01, 07, & 08, 2008**

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetria Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to resolve the issues that led to the denial of your permit application. If you fail to appear or fail to bring required documentation, the appeal may be dismissed and an administrative order may be entered against you. Any employee who intends to request permission to transfer to a new employer must appear at the hearing to make that request; failure to appear may result in immediate denial of transfer relief.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
DC 08-662	Lim, Jin Taik	Air World Corporation	August 7, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-659	Zhang, Fuhua	Air World Corporation	August 7, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-658	Alvaro, Edilberto C.	An Da International Corp.	August 7, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-609	Banayat, Rosita A.	Arizala, Jessie A.	July 24, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-470	David, Eduardo O.	Baltazar, Luisito A.	July 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-524	Rizo, Lerma M.	BJF Enterprises, Inc.	August 1, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-460	Shen, Ying	Cabrera, Fuyun Ya	August 8, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-564	He, Zhi Zhan	Crystal Star Corporation	August 1, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-498	Naungayan, Adelina A.	Delos Santos, Elena & Lincoln	July 31, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-607	Li, Shuqiong	Dong Fong Corporation	July 24, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-635	Kabir, Humaun	Dong Rim Corporation	August 7, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-636	Motaleb, Abdul	Dong Rim Corporation	August 7, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-515	Choi, In Young	Falig, Mariano M.	August 1, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-457	Bocatot, Loida F.	Gaiguez, Mariano A.	August 8, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-600	Cui, Shunyu	Geng Biao Corporation	July 25, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-497	Zheng, Shengjuan	Hen Qi Li Corporation	July 31, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-373	Barce, Abraham J.	HNC Inc.	August 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-615	Camba, Jessie M.	Island Grip Services Inc.	July 24, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-673	Huang, Haiyue	J Min Corporation	August 7, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-608	Nimes, Edgardo D.	Jen-Marz Enterprises Inc.	July 24, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-348	Prado, Rogelio N.	Jen-Marz Enterprises Inc.	July 24, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-672	Li, Ming Hao	Jin Yong Americana Inc.	August 7, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-536	Cui, Chunnan	Jones, Hongxia Shao	August 1, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-535	Lu, Dai Fang	Jones, Hongxia Shao	August 1, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-455	Sanchez, Restituta R.	JRC Corporation	August 8, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-140	Quan, Zhenyu	JXYZ Corporation	August 8, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-492	Kim, Kyung Hoi	K & K Corporation	July 31, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-674	Brien, Crisanta	Kaiser G O M C & R F, Inc.	August 7, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-634	Bernardo, Kelvin G.	Keebenton Int'l. Inc.	July 24, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-453	Morales, Ariel M.	Kims Corporation	August 8, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-562	Chul, Yoon	KMH Corporation	July 31, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-467	Bae, Jungbyung	Kosa Pacific, Inc.	July 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-486	Dela Cruz, Rosario A.	Lagartus, Rolando	July 31, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-603	Liu, Weiyong	Lani International, Inc.	July 24, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-567	Serrano, Edison D.	Leong, Lourdes B.	August 1, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-586	Li, Fushun	Lilys Corporation	July 25, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-587	Xu, Yingshu	Lilys Corporation	July 25, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-509	Mendoza, Leila O.	Lobrio, Marie Vic M.	July 31, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-621	Manabat, Charina P.	Matson, William P.	July 24, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-605	Justo, Samuel B.	MRS3 Corporation	July 24, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-606	Soberano, Carolyn L.	MRS3 Corporation	July 24, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-532	Beri, Walden Q.	Muna, Arlene A.	August 1, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-614	Tang, Xue	N.G.Li Corporation	August 7, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-404	Sula, Jose C.	Ngeskebei, Dennis J.	August 8, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-573	Zhang, Nirong	Optima Karaoke	July 25, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-565	Sun, Hongmei	Palm Springs Life Ext Inc.	August 1, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-538	Razalo, Fe M.	Pangelinan, Asuncion	August 1, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-494	Churnjai, Chonnikan	Posadas, Segundo	July 31, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-526	Bismanos, Bernabe V.	R & S Enterprises, Inc.	August 1, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-525	Javinar, Dionisio G.	R & S Enterprises, Inc.	August 1, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-485	Galanza, Mylin D. L.	R Corporation	July 31, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-472	Riveral, Danilo I.	Reyes, Adora R.	July 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-616	Espiritu, Raquel S.	RGC Corporation	July 24, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-593	Engotan, Elvira O.	Sacramento, Eduardo G.	July 25, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-596	Beltran, Leonardo T.	Saipan Auto Clinic Company	July 25, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-568	Carlos, Noli D.	Salalila, Julian B.	August 1, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-569	Gomez, Milagros D. C.	Salalila, Julian B.	August 1, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-570	Jacob, Mario A.	Salalila, Julian B.	August 1, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-205	Sofia, Ronnie D.	Samkor Inc.	August 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-407	Zhao, Huimin	Samkor Inc.	August 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-523	Legaspi, Joy P.	Se Young Corporation	August 1, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-489	Bautista, Pablo B.	Seman, Enrique K.	July 31, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-613	Wu, Shaofan	Sinorain Corporation	July 24, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-631	Hayag, Veben Jose S.	Soloman, Nicolas M.	August 7, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-632	Nuqui, Bonifacio C.	Soloman, Nicolas M.	August 7, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-629	Onal, Erllyn B.	Soloman, Nicolas M.	August 7, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-633	Tibayan, Roderick C.	Soloman, Nicolas M.	August 7, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-630	Parrero, Roy T.	Soloman, Nicolas M. Jr.	August 7, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-432	Encarnacion, Elsie R.	Sula, Jose C.	August 8, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-682	Yang, Laiyi	Sunlight Corporation	August 7, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-602	Tang, Wei	Tang Investments, Inc.	July 24, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-575	Lastimado, Antonio D. A.	Torres, Julieta B.	July 25, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-491	Naluz, Raymond M.	Tri-Hans Corporation	July 31, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-458	Monsanto, Christopher M.	Triple K Corporation	August 8, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-481	Fabillar, Rodolfo L.	Triple T. Corporation	July 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-461	De Guzman, Joseph S.	Universal Developers Inc.	August 8, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-558	Wang, Mengguang	Wong Sook Lan	July 31, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-681	Hepolio, Henry N.	Wons Corporation	August 7, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-477	Sun, Maomei	Yin Jia Corporation	July 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-456	Song, Mi Hwa H.	Yuna Corporation, Inc.	August 8, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-468	Huang, Haixia	Zhong Run Commercial Co., Inc.	July 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.

**NOTICE OF HEARING PENDING LABOR CASES**

**Monday, July 21, 2008 first notice      Monday, July 28, 2008 second notice**

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetria Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. You claims will be heard at that time or continued to a date certain. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. In particular, if you have wage claims or if wage claims are made against you, please bring supporting documentation. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.

If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call the Administrative Hearing Office at 236-0956/7, or come to the Administrative Hearing Office at the Department of Labor.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
LC 07-300	Miralles, Marilyn A.	Fogata, David H.	August 1, 2008	4:00 p.m.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

‘Enabling the addict’

If your son had a nasty heroin addiction, what would you do? If he came to you for money, would you give it to him so that he could shoot up more heroin?

That’s essentially what our lawmakers did in last Friday’s special House session when they passed HB 16-130, which bails out CUC by loaning them \$3.4 million to put a down payment on leasing back-up generators from Aggreko and additional money to pay off its outstanding debts to two contractors running our power plants.

I sat in along with other concerned citizens during the entire session Friday and watched our lawmakers debate this very controversial CUC bailout bill. To be fair, all lawmakers presented some compelling arguments for and against the bill, and most seemed torn with the decision they had to make.

The final outcome? The bill passed 12 - 6. The six who voted against the bill were Reps. Heinz Hofschneider, Tina Sablan, Ed Salas, Frank Dela Cruz, Rosemond Santos, and Joseph Camacho. Reps. Ralph Torres and Ray Yumul were absent.

The main reason why the 12 lawmakers passed this bailout bill for CUC? Our people desperately need stable power. But hey, a heroin addict desperately needs heroin. That still doesn’t make it right.

Make no mistake about it. The intentions of our 12 lawmakers to pass this bill are good in nature. But as I have said before, the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

CUC promises this contract will deliver the 14 megawatts of power needed to bring stable power to Saipan. But are we forgetting something extremely important here? Didn’t CUC executive director Tony Muna promise we would have stable power by June? Didn’t we learn from CUC’s previous mistakes? When will we learn that *we need to stop rewarding CUC for their incompetence and mistakes?*

The bottom line? Our House and Senate bailed out CUC once again. Some of our leaders expressed that they had no other viable option. In life, there are always other options; it is just a matter of vigorously exhausting all plausible options in an all-out effort to find the best one. At the very least, our noble leaders had the power to *demand* that CUC put together a legitimate no-nonsense timetable and a detailed plan of action on how they will repair and rehabilitate our broken engines. Who exactly is fixing our engines anyway? Right now,

CUC is terminating its questionable \$5 million contract with DCM and it is not even invoking the penalty clauses with this shady sole-sourced “emergency” contractor! Right now, CISCO is being investigated by the FBI for its \$1.2 million payout, while it never even repaired and rehabilitated Power Plant 2 as promised! So who exactly is going to fix our generators, Mr. Muna? You? CISCO? A sister company of DCM? No, thanks! I’d rather purchase a small home generator and get off the grid than to believe more CUC empty promises and white lies.

I often wonder, was it a sheer coincidence that we experienced few, if any, power outages in our villages while Governor Fitial was off island suing the U.S. government with special interest money? Was it a sheer coincidence that Garapan, the CNMI’s tourist capital, suddenly experienced daily blackouts from 10pm to 12 midnight right before the House and Senate were to vote on the CUC bailout bill? Was it a sheer coincidence that leading up to the CUC bailout bill, every village in Saipan experienced longer and more frequent blackouts? Was it a sheer coincidence that during the House debate on the CUC bailout bill, they were suddenly exempted from their daily 10am to 12pm scheduled power outage? Was it a sheer coincidence that Tony Muna promised Aggreko they would have the \$1.5 million down payment for Aggreko even before the House and Senate agreed to the CUC bailout? Sounds like a whole lot of coincidences to me. I am sorry, but I cannot trust anything that this administration says about CUC. We have been fooled one too many times! Aren’t you getting sick and tired of it?

You want to hear Reality 101? If you think your current utility bill is outrageously high right now with all of our blackouts and load shedding, what do you think your utility bill is going to look like when we all finally have 24-hour power along with July’s 2.6 cent per kilowatt hour increase? What do you think your utility bill will look like when CUC and Tony Muna raise our utility rates in order to pay back the MPLT loan, Aggreko, Tele-source, PMIC, and its other private contractors? Do you honestly believe CUC can do all of this without raising our rates? Of course not! We will see more of our people without electricity because they can no longer afford to keep the lights on in their homes.

Remember, Tony Muna

originally said all they needed was 10 megawatts of back-up power. Then he retracted his statement and said CUC actually needs 15. Then Tony Muna says they will only need Aggreko’s back-up generators for one year. Now he is saying they will probably need the back-up generators for 18 months! Who is to say Tony Muna won’t change his mind again and say that we need the back-up generators for two years, or that we need to lease an additional 10 or 20 megawatts of power? What is at stake here? Millions of dollars that is being flushed down the toilet while we lower our living standards and live like cavemen. Are you okay with this?

The day we bring change to the CNMI is the day that 2,000 voters are willing to assemble in front of Governor Fitial’s office and demand accountability and good governance. But let’s be honest. No one is willing to risk their government job. The fear factor has paralyzed our people from standing up against tyranny.

How sad it is when I think about the fact that our people once were warriors! Today, we are nothing but complacent drones willing to accept bad governance, corruption, and incompetence. I used to blame the governor for all of our problems. Now I must realize that the true blame belongs in the hands of each and every one of us who stands by and watches while the CNMI crumbles. Many have fled our islands. More will leave within the end of the year. Will you be one of them, or are you willing to stand up and fight for your home?

I have put everything on the line to speak out against this regime we like to call a government. But I will be damned if I am going to surrender peacefully. God gave us the opportunity to choose our destiny. I ask you my brothers and sisters of our Commonwealth, what will you choose? To flee or fight? To be a part of the problem or a part of the solution? To continue with the status quo, or be a part of the movement for improvement??

Take a good look around you. Change will never happen unless you are willing to be a part of that change. In life, we must take risks and we must make sacrifices if we are to bring real change. Whatever it is you decide, may God bless you and your family during these dark and depressing times...

**Ed Propst**  
*Dandan, Saipan*





Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995



NOTICE OF CLOSURE OR DISMISSAL  
LABOR CASES

July 21, 2008, first notice

July 28, 2006, second notice

COMPLAINANTS IN THE FOLLOWING LABOR CASES:

Each of the labor cases listed below has been adjudicated or dismissed by the Administrative Hearing Office. In each case, this is a final action by the Administrative Hearing Office. All claims, including all claims for money damages, and all claims for eligibility for transfer, have been adjudicated or dismissed. Any complainant who has not been served personally or by mail with the hearing officer's order adjudicating or dismissing the case is now, as of the second date of publication of this notice, served with the order. A complainant served by means of this publication may obtain a copy of the hearing officer's order from the Administrative Hearing Office. A complainant whose case has been adjudicated or dismissed by the Administrative Hearing Office has fifteen (15) days from the second date of publication of this notice in which to appeal the order. This publication does not affect any prior served personally or otherwise on a complainant, and the time in which to appeal runs from the date of that service.

Case No.	Complainant	Respondent (s)	Case No.	Complainant	Respondent (s)	Case No.	Complainant	Respondent (s)	Case No.	Complainant	Respondent (s)
LC 06-007	Abing, Ernesto B.	OB Ent. Dba Sunshine Auto Shop	LC 06-056	He, Ping	MicroPacific, Inc.	LC 06-145	Marcellana, Simeon O.	Motion Auto Repair Center, Inc.	LC 06-300	Villamora, Teresita G.	Buenafior, Amelia C.M. and Vicente Cabrera
LC 06-080	Abogado, Leopoldo F.	Cruz, Angel dba AMC Dev. Corp.	LC 06-051	Hernandez, Virginia C.	Ken Aqua Hotel & Resort, Inc.	LC 06-277	Mario, Aquino V.	Cruz, Theresa R.	LC 06-253	Villegas, Joeme	Royal Crown Insurance
LC 06-156	Acosta, Alfredo Jr. A.	Cid Mostales dba Aqualyte Water	LC 06-130	Herrera, Leopoldo	Family Alliance Corp.	LC 06-138	Maria, Michael D.	Torres, Ernest R.	LC 06-231	Vinarao, Shirley S.	Camacho, Fermina
LC 06-178	Alamgir, Hossain	Bashar, Md. Abul	LC 06-103	Hong, Fu Hua	American Pacific Textile	LC 06-304	Martinez, Larry S.	Pelismen, Maria E.	LC 06-182	Voces, M. Erlinda C.	O'Brien, Dan
LC 06-205	Alexander, Alfred S.	JC Tenorio Ent.	LC 06-038	Hu, Huazhen	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-262	Matsumoto, Minoru	Fine Island, Inc. dba Island Garden	LC 06-047	Wang, Fangfang	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-320	Ali, Md. Rojab	Soleman	LC 06-054	Hu, Ping	Michigan, Inc.	LC 06-288	Medina, Felisa C.	Maratita, Kevin	LC 06-212	Wang, Jianwei	United Int'l Corp.
LC 06-126	Aque, Olivia A.	Bazillai Company, Ltd.	LC 06-021	Huang, Fengxia	BQF Service Corp.	LC 06-245	Melchor, Teresita B.	Salas, Margaret H.	LC 06-055	Wang, Jing Hong	Greate Corporation
LC 06-222	Arcega, Lorna L.	Singh, Lydia M.	LC 06-114	Huang, Haiyan	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-133	Mempin, Alex E.	Island Seven Colors	LC 06-062	Wang, Jufang	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-347	Astete, Jonathan L.	Premier Business Solutions, Inc.	LC 06-135	Huang, Jinchi	BMW Corporation	LC 06-303	Mercado, Helen S.	Park, Jin Won	LC 06-158	Wang, Ling Fang	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.
LC 06-317	Atoy, Carmelino L.	Lee, Sung Am	LC 06-310	Huang, Lingen	MZ Corporation	LC 06-287	Mercado, Neijene F.	RIM Architects (Saipan), Inc.	LC 06-155	Wang, Ruping	Mirage Saipan LTD, Inc.
LC 06-280	Ayano, Tanaka	Big Boyz II Marine	LC 06-118	Huang, Lirong	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-294	Miao, Guojun (ER)	Zhang, Hua (EE)	LC 06-087	Wang, Ting	American RF Corp.
LC 06-005	Bai, Ya Hong	Taitingfong, Roman A.	LC 06-050	Huang, Qiujuan	Sai-Ichi Int'l, Inc.	LC 06-279	Mizoguchi, Showa	Big Boyz II Marine	LC 06-202	Wang, Wen Juan	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-033	Balane, Agnes B.	Kapiat, Elsie C.	LC 06-148	Huang, Xian Shun	J-XYZ Corp.	LC 06-151	Monir	Benavente, Estanislao K.	LC 06-047	Wang, Xia	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-353	Belgica, Edwin O.	Joon Corp. dba Moon Night Club	LC 06-170	Huang, Yilin	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-323	Morales, Gilbert R.	NMPASI	LC 06-328	Wang, Xiaoping	Poong In Saipan, Inc.
LC 06-254	Bello, Dante V.	Taisacan, Jesus M.	LC 06-014	Huang, Yongmei	Taisacan, Ryan SN	LC 06-175	Mostafa, Golam	Ampac, Ltd.	LC 06-163	Wang, Yangzhen	American Sai Green Corp.
LC 06-173	Bernardo, Solina S.	Bema Corporation	LC 06-203	Huang, Zhong	Yong Jun Song dba Banana Karaoke	LC 06-181	Mozid	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-227	Wei, Hang	Date Corporation
LC 06-196	Bigcus, Fernando B.	South Pacific Galaxy Corp.	LC 06-339	Ignacio, Gilbert P.	Sablun, Lisa P.	LC 06-174	Murao, Melba N.C.	Olopai, Rita and Vivian Nogis	LC 06-044	Wei, Yao	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-338	Bonifacio, Edwina S.	Babauta, Claudine	LC 06-162	Ignacio, James F.	Glimpses of Guam	LC 06-216	Nabung, Anita M.	Dalsaso, James	LC 06-190	Wen, Jinshi	YJ Company, Ltd.
LC 06-252	Buenafior, Anthony M.	Sam Corp.	LC 06-297	Islam, Tufazzul	Santos, Vincent F.	LC 06-302	Nicdao, Amelia	Park, Jin Won	LC 06-271	Weng, Guangxiong	Napias Corp.
LC 06-305	Bustamante, Elizabeth B.	Viray Enterprises	LC 06-356	Ji, Feng Nu	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-333	Nisperos, Ruben D.	S & BS Enterprises, Inc.	LC 06-117	Wu, Jia	United Int'l Corp.
LC 06-335	Caamic, Maria P.T.	Modern Investment	LC 06-108	Jia, Min	MicroPacific, Inc.	LC 06-343	Ocenar, Edwin J.	Teregeyo, Charlene	LC 06-119	Wu, Liyu	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-167	Caballero, Emily G.	Seman, Juanita	LC 06-219	Jiang, Chunxiang	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-143	Okawa, Kiyoshi P.	Mabu Corp. dba Ken Restaurant	LC 06-229	Wu, Qiying	Handsome Textile
LC 06-105	Cables, Eduardo S.	Mr. Choi dba Soi In Corp.	LC 06-061	Jiang, Cuixia	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-291	Pacurib, Helen D.	Saipan Int'l School	LC 06-120	Wu, Yunxia	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-006	Cai, Juan	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-127	Jiang, Jian Ping	Agon, Jose C. dba Papago Island Charcoal	LC 06-331	Palarca, Marcela A.	Bauleong, Melissa	LC 06-090	Xia, Zishuang	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-049	Cao, Jin	ASC Arch Structure Corp.	LC 06-150	Jiang, Li	Michigan, Inc.	LC 06-307	Palmas, Saturnina C.	Alvarez, Bruno	LC 06-226	Xiao, Ruiming	Date Corporation
LC 06-134	Cao, Long Hao	Blue Bird, Inc.	LC 06-064	Jiang, Ming Hua	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-221	Pan, Jinhua	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-041	Xie, Yanmei	Nigrarios, Yoko
LC 06-072	Capili, June G.	Misamis Const. Co., Ltd.	LC 06-312	Jiang, Tianxiao	Saipan SJ Corp.	LC 06-057	Pan, Jun	MicroPacific, Inc.	LC 06-099	Xiong, Xiyi	US CNMI Dev. Corp.
LC 06-326	Carino, Florante D.	CMLC Artha Co., Ltd.	LC 06-225	Jiang, Xiaomei	Top Fashion Corp.	LC 06-258	Panuelos, Eduardo P.	Pacific Utility & Comm., Inc.	LC 06-004	Xu, Dang Xiong	Aldan, Vicente M.
LC 06-111	Casario, Reynaldo I.	KC Company, Ltd.	LC 06-084	Jiang, Yu Xian	Michigan, Inc.	LC 06-022	Peng, Donghua	MicroPacific, Inc.	LC 06-345	Xu, Qianjun	Walvo Enterprises
LC 06-052	Castillo, Roger S.	Skey, Rosalia and Emalyn Santiago	LC 06-066	Jiang, Yun	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-074	Perez, Elizabeth D.LC	Kairos Enterprise, Inc.	LC 06-027	Xu, Que Hua	Rifu Apparel, Inc.
LC 06-125	Casuga, Juanita	Bazillai Company, Ltd.	LC 06-220	Jin, Aifang	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-215	Pesado, M. Mila C.	Cabrera, Rosalie and Aurora Parial	LC 06-308	Xu, Shunjun	Poong In Saipan, Inc.
LC 06-161	Catacutan, Nestor C.	Lee, Yoon Jae	LC 06-136	Jin, Fenghua	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	LC 06-284	Piao, Yongzhe	Vision Corporation	LC 06-337	Xu, Xingyi	Yinghua Corp. and Seoul Office
LC 06-034	Chen, Chunxiang	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-344	Jin, Ji Hong	B.K. Corporation	LC 06-113	Pickrell, Fiel F.	Chentsov, Oleg dba Troika Restaurant	LC 06-096	Xu, Xiuxiu	Rifu Apparel, Inc.
LC 06-046	Chen, Hongxia	Mirage Saipan LTD, Inc.	LC 06-188	Jin, Jizi	Asia Enterprises, Inc.	LC 06-255	Pineda, Nestor M.	Pacific Utility & Comm., Inc.	LC 06-016	Xu, Zhang Yu	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-149	Chen, Lifeng	Sun Mei Corp.	LC 06-036	Jin, Yongri	Sam Marianas, Inc.	LC 06-179	Podder, Debesh	Bashar, Md. Abul	LC 06-124	Xue, Jin	Mirage Saipan LTD, Inc.
LC 06-122	Chen, Meier	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-282	Juan, Zhou	Oak Corp. and Sun Qiao Lan	LC 06-272	Qian, Xiaoli	Sam Kwang Saipan Corp.	LC 06-261	Yaekmum, Suthian	United Int'l Corp.
LC 06-121	Chen, Meigui	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-110	Jung, Sung Hwa Baik	Saipan Int'l School	LC 06-233	Quan, Yonglan	Winners Corporation	LC 06-001	Yang, Hai Qin	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-166	Collo, Amante C.	Sali, Lheng and Carrie	LC 06-296	Kashem, Abul	Four Nine Int'l Co., Ltd.	LC 06-341	Ramirez, Deolito Jr. B.	Shekinah Fishing Corp.	LC 06-077	Yang, Shuhong	Taiwan Trading Co., Ltd.
LC 06-168	Crisostomo, Jaime Jr. C.	Yagi, Elvira dba Yumiko Corp.	LC 06-267	Kim, Yong Nam	Liberty Age, Inc.	LC 06-210	Ramos, Elizabeth G.	Tambayan Club / Saint Trading	LC 06-147	Yang, Wan Jun	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-273	Cui, Deshun	Michigan, Inc.	LC 06-266	Kyakumoto, Kenji	Liberty Age, Inc.	LC 06-232	Raquel, Geraldine A.	American RF Corp.	LC 06-039	Yang, Zhirong	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-063	Cui, Yuxian	Rifu Apparel, Inc.	LC 06-248	Labadra, Lilia M.	Cepeda, Martin	LC 06-346	Ren, Tianchen	Walvo Enterprises	LC 06-207	Yao, Fengying	Central Pacific Corp.
LC 06-358	Dang, Thoi Thi	Winners Corporation	LC 06-104	Lacantaler, Noemi G.	Ken Aqua Hotel & Resort, Inc.	LC 06-010	Ren, Yan Hong	Winners Corporation	LC 06-234	Yao, Li Hua	Marianas Garment MFG
LC 06-286	De Guzman, Marvin B.	RIM Architects (Saipan), Inc.	LC 06-191	Langit, Samuel O.	Benosa, Isagani dba Bien Seiko	LC 06-285	Reyes, Pepito O.	RIM Architects (Saipan), Inc.	LC 06-177	Yap, Jill S.J.T.	Sablun, Tito dba Kaiana's Hair
LC 06-265	Dela Cruz, Marilyn M.	Obakrainur, Roger and Eugenia	LC 06-257	Lansangan, Eric R.	Pacific Utility & Comm., Inc.	LC 06-157	Ricon, Robert R.	Tagorda, M. Theresa dba Maribeth Corp.	LC 06-073	Ye, Li Feng	Michigan, Inc.
LC 06-111	Dela Cruz, Raymundo C.	KC Company, Ltd.	LC 06-211	Leny, Ordinario L.	Duenas, Luis and Doris	LC 06-070	Ruan, Chunying	Sai-Ichi Int'l, Inc.	LC 06-076	Yin, Dongding	Concorde Garment Corp
LC 06-217	Dela Torre, Evelyn V.	Rabaulman, Marcelina	LC 06-017	Li, Chao	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-327	Rubis, Imelda R.	MAC - US Int'l, Inc.	LC 06-060	Yin, Hanmei	Rifu Apparel, Inc.
LC 06-024	Denora, Mercedes P.	Curry Ent. LLC dba Wild Bar & Grill	LC 06-116	Li, Chuan Mei	United Int'l Corp.	LC 06-132	Sacdan, Mario R.	Bien Seiko, Inc.	LC 06-008	Yin, Jian Feng	Michigan, Inc.
LC 06-259	Dhimol, Buddhie L. (deceased)	Osman Gani dba Lucky Security	LC 06-083	Li, Dongmei	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-059	Saludares, Imelda R.	Villagomez, Rellanita A.	LC 06-351	Yong, Lin	Rifu Apparel, Inc.
LC 06-180	Dhimol, Pabrita	Villagomez, Maria D.C.S.	LC 06-224	Li, Fengchun	Jisoo Corporation	LC 06-250	Salvacion, Angeli A.	American RF Corp.	LC 06-061	Yuan, Juxiang	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-160	Ding, Guozheng	Onwel MFG Saipan, Ltd.	LC 06-283	Li, Guangfan	Han Ho Corporation	LC 06-112	San Pedro, Rosanna D.	Ampac, Ltd.	LC 06-101	Yuan, Si Long	He Cheng Corporation
LC 06-298	Dinopol, Perigrino V.	Quitano, Jesus and Belinda	LC 06-314	Li, Gumei	Yoo Sung Embroidery, Inc.	LC 06-332	Sanchez, David C.	Misamis Const. Co., Ltd.	LC 06-354	Yushi, Quan	Winners Corporation
LC 06-093	Diola, Mario M.	Micronesian Brokers CNMI, Inc.	LC 06-238	Li, Haisen	Long Teng Corp.	LC 06-218	Sangel, Sheila V.B.	Mandara Spa Saipan, Inc.	LC 06-011	Zeng, Li Ying	Seishin Farm, Inc.
LC 06-321	Doliente, Pio L.	CNMI, Inc.	LC 06-204	Li, Lianyu	Cui Star Corp. dba Yeon Beon Restaurant	LC 06-146	Sansan, Lourdes C.	Salas, Edward T.	LC 06-115	Zhang, Aihong	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-325	Domingo, Jacklou U.	Saigon Enterprises, Inc.	LC 06-058	Li, Ping	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-201	Santes, Marites M.	Garcia, Nancy dba Family Alliance	LC 06-350	Zhang, Chun Mei	United Int'l Corp.
LC 06-079	Dong, Yuehong	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-020	Li, Qin	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-223	Santos, Joanel G.	Aquiningoc, Alice	LC 06-017	Zhang, Fang	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-076	Du, Xuelian	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-053	Li, Shujin	Sai-Ichi Int'l, Inc.	LC 06-309	Sayson, Kimberly R.	Jimin Ent., Inc.	LC 06-172	Zhang, Guoming	Lizama, Trinidad
LC 06-128	Dy, Armelia E.	Yun's Corp. dba Payless	LC 06-089	Li, Wang Fang	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-009	Seman, Anthony (ER)	Domingo, Jackyou U. (EE)	LC 06-311	Zhang, Hua	Success Int'l Corp.
LC 06-269	Ejoradas, Clarito B.	Aldan, Tobias C.	LC 06-243	Li, Xiang Hua	Jung A Enterprise, Inc.	LC 06-355	Sembrano, Merla C.	Joshua Generation Int.	LC 06-069	Zhang, Huimin	Mirage Saipan LTD, Inc.
LC 06-318	Elloso, Rolando D.C.	Valenzuelas Janitorial	LC 06-242	Li, Xiang Hua	Soi In Corp.	LC 06-088	Shan, Huafang	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-016	Zhang, Jiajing	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-295	Esqueria, Antonio D.	Javili General Partnership	LC 06-098	Li, Xiangrong	L & T Int'l Corp.	LC 06-058	Shen, Juan	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-061	Zhang, Jianping	Concorde Garment Corp.
LC 06-013	Esquerra, Domingo E.	Keebentont Int'l, Inc.	LC 06-141	Li, Yan	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-046	Shen, Jufang	Mirage Saipan LTD, Inc.	LC 06-316	Zhang, Pingquan	Sablun Ent., Inc. and Shi Xue Hong
LC 06-322	Esquivel, Josefina S.	Cepeda, Eugenia C.	LC 06-183	Li, Yu Cheng	Sai Trans Company, Ltd.	LC 06-058	Shen, Yun	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-048	Zhang, Qing	Date Corporation
LC 06-315	Evangelista, Rosa R.	Diaz, Sharee	LC 06-137	Li, Yujin	707 Corporation	LC 06-029	Shi, Changsan	Commonwealth GMT MFG, Inc.	LC 06-026	Zhang, Xiaobei	MicroPacific, Inc.
LC 06-240	Fampulme, Ernesto F.	Johndel Int'l, Inc.	LC 06-264	Lian, Wanlong	Joo Ang Apparel Corp.	LC 06-090	Shi, Guo Ying	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-021	Zhang, Xiaoli	BQF Service Corp.
LC 06-086	Fan, Fengzhi	Concorde Garment Corp.	LC 06-275	Lim, Elizabeth P.	Lucky Corporation	LC 06-228	Shi, Sandi	Marianas Garment MFG	LC 06-319	Zhang, Yiling	Yuki American Corp. dba Millionaire Restaurant
LC 06-091	Fan, Zhi Yan	Capital Corporation	LC 06-040	Lin, Bing Rong	Taitingfong, Roman A.	LC 06-139	Si, Ma Qian	American Sai Green Corp.	LC 06-070	Zhang, Ying	Sai-Ichi Int'l, Inc.
LC 06-042	Fang, Meijuan	Victorino, Maria & Alexander</									



# Business

## Oil prices tumble in biggest weekly drop ever

NEW YORK (AP)—The price of oil recorded its biggest weekly drop ever, and a gallon of gas finally pulled back from its record high. So is it time to declare the energy bubble popped?

Experts won't go that far just yet.

"It's too early to say we've seen the worst of it," said Tom Kloza, publisher and chief oil analyst of the Oil Price Information Service in Wall, N.J. "We would be Pollyannish if we believe one week represents a trend."

Still, with oil recording yet another drop on Friday, some

industry experts who just days ago thought there was more juice left in oil's meteoric run are reconsidering.

"If this is not the bubble's implosion, than it's a reasonable facsimile," analyst and trader Stephen Schork said in his daily market commentary. "Time will tell. Nevertheless, for the time being we no longer care to hold a bullish view."

Light, sweet crude for August delivery fell 41 cents Friday to settle at \$128.88 on the New York Mercantile Exchange - well below its trading record of

more than \$147 a week earlier.

The average price of a gallon of regular gas fell about a penny for the day, to \$4.105, according to auto club AAA, the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express. Diesel prices dipped three-tenths of a cent to \$4.842 a gallon.

Some analysts said a nationwide average of \$4 or even lower could be in the offing—almost unthinkable in a summer when there has seemed to be no relief at the pump—although they cautioned that there is no guarantee prices will stay low.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Dream of gas tax holiday falters over job losses

WASHINGTON (AP)—The political vision of a summer gas tax holiday died a quick death in Congress, losing to a view that federal excise taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel will have to go up if they go anywhere. Despite calls from the presidential campaign trail for a Memorial Day-to-Labor Day tax freeze, lawmakers quickly concluded -

with a prod from the construction industry—that having \$9 billion less to spend on highways could create a pre-election specter of thousands of lost jobs. Now, lawmakers quietly are talking about raising fuel taxes by a dime from the current 18.4 cents a gallon on gasoline and 24.3 cents on diesel fuel.

#### Tomato growers: Salmonella scare damages industry

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Since the government announced it was investigating whether tomatoes caused the outbreak that began in April, the nation's tomato industry estimates it has lost more than \$100 million. Health investigators have not been able to find tomatoes that contained the salmonella strain that sickened 1,220 people, and the government on Thursday lifted its salmonella warning involving tomatoes. The move hasn't brightened the outlook of the \$1.3 billion industry, and the stigma and uncertainty of the salmonella's origin are likely to add to its losses.

#### Wall Street mixed after earnings reports

NEW YORK (AP)—Wall Street closed out an impressive week with a mixed performance Friday after disappointing some of investors' enthusiasm over better-than-expected bank

earnings reports. But the major indexes still ended the week with big gains, the result of rising optimism about the troubled financial sector. The Dow rose 49.91, or 0.44 percent, to 11,496.57, adding on to a 483-point gain Wednesday and Thursday. Broader stock indicators were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 0.36, or 0.03 percent, to 1,260.68, and the technology-focused Nasdaq composite index dropped 29.52, or 1.28 percent, to 2,282.78. For the week, the Dow rose 3.57 percent, the Nasdaq increased 1.95 percent, and the S&P rose 1.71 percent.

#### Chinese broker tried in insider trading

BEIJING (AP)—The former president of a major Chinese stock brokerage has gone on trial on insider-trading charges in connection with the company's 2006 stock market debut, a state news agency reported Saturday. Dong Zhengqing, former president of Guangfa Securities, the country's sixth-largest brokerage, denied any wrongdoing and rejected an earlier confession at the trial Friday in China's southern business capital of Guangzhou, the Xinhua News Agency said. Dong is accused of tipping off his brother about Guangfa's plans to obtain a stock market listing by acquiring a company that already was publicly traded.

### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands DEPARTMENT OF LABOR DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Floor Afta Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

## NOTICE OF CLOSURE OR DISMISSAL AGENCY CASES

July 14, 2008, first notice

July 21, 2006, second notice

#### COMPLAINANTS IN THE FOLLOWING AGENCY CASES:

Each of the agency cases listed below has been adjudicated by the Administrative Hearing Office or dismissed by the Director of Labor. In each case, this is a final action by the Administrative Hearing Office or the Director of Labor. All claims, including all claims for money damages, and all claims for eligibility for transfer, have been adjudicated or dismissed. Any complainant who has not been served personally or by mail with the hearing officer's order adjudicating or dismissing the case is now, as of the second date of publication of this notice, served with the order. A complainant served by means of this publication may obtain a copy of the hearing officer's order from the Administrative Hearing Office. A complainant whose case has been dismissed by the Administrative Hearing Office has fifteen (15) days from the second date of publication of this notice in which to appeal the order. This publication does not affect any prior served personally or otherwise on a complainant, and the time in which to appeal runs from the date of that service. The Director of Labor has discretion to dismiss or close any agency case.

CASE NO.	RESPONDENT
06-039-05	A.Y.D. Services, Inc.
06-102-08	Acejo, Rhodora Dlg.
06-163-12	American Kai Hua
06-040-05	American Sai Green
06-146-11	Americana Construction Corp.
06-091-07	Angel Wings Corporation
06-026-03	Aqua Hotel and Resort
06-147-11	Asia West Investment dba Paradise
06-041-05	Atalig, Felipe Q.
06-165-12	Auntie Mag's Catering
06-029-04	Ayuyu, James
06-106-08	Big Boz II Marine
06-083-07	Cabrera, Diego
06-158-11	Cabrera, Joaquin S.
06-073-06	Cabrera, Lucinda
06-092-07	Camacho, Juan A.
06-006-02	Celis, Manuel C. (deceased)
06-007-02	Chang, Wang Yuong (deceased)
06-008-02	Chen, Shaofan
06-097-07	Chong, Jose L.
06-042-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-043-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-044-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-045-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-046-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-047-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-048-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-049-05	Concord Garment MFG, Inc.
06-030-04	Concorde Garment MFG Inc.
06-037-05	Concorde Garment MFG Inc.
06-070-06	Concorde Garment MFG Inc.
06-095-07	Concorde Garment MFG Inc.
06-166-12	Concorde Garment MFG Inc.
06-050-05	Coral Ocean Point
06-099-07	Cruz, Angel P. Jr.
06-149-11	CS Corporation
06-127-10	D Won Corporation
06-077-06	Dai, Xiaojun
06-096-07	Dela Cruz, Cristina
06-142-10	Dela Cruz, Cristina
06-024-03	Dong Fong Corporation
06-084-07	Double J Corporation
06-022-03	Double Lee Corporation
06-089-07	E.W.G.E. Corporation
06-160-12	Echo Karaoke & Tinian Dynasty
06-034-05	Energy Corporation
06-162-12	Falig, Mariano
06-134-10	FAS Moving & Storage Company
06-151-11	Fejeran, Julie L.
06-137-10	Gottwald, Jocelyn L.
06-159-11	Great Corporation
06-082-06	Great Sunshine Corporation

CASE NO.	RESPONDENT
06-052-05	Hafa Adai Beach Hotel
06-053-05	Handsome Textile
06-054-05	Handsome Textile
06-051-05	Hard Rock Café
06-104-08	Herman's Modern Bakery
06-143-11	Herman's Modern Bakery
06-087-07	Hotel Nikko Saipan
06-098-07	Huang Zheng Corp., Ltd.
06-005-01	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.
06-088-07	Inter-Kam Corporation
06-111-08	JM Sablan Co. & Tito M. Sablan
06-107-08	Jones, Joseph
06-055-05	Jung-A Enterprises
06-021-03	Kaipat, Francisco L.
06-027-04	Kairos Ent., Inc.
06-136-10	Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd.
06-011-02	Koo, Cho Hong dba Kiwon Corp.
06-118-08	Kyung An Corporation
06-079-06	Kyungseung, Inc.
06-031-05	Laniyo, Carmen
06-131-10	Li and Fung Exports, Ltd.
06-138-10	Luen Tai Ent., Inc.
06-119-09	M&L, Ltd. and Sky International
06-121-09	Magofna, Rosalina
06-093-07	Malone, Reyna and Soares, Joe
06-023-03	Manibusan, Jesus R.
06-014-03	Mariana Resort and Spa
06-035-05	Marianas Gift Supply, Inc.
06-036-05	Marianas Gift Supply, Inc.
06-110-08	Marianas Variety
06-009-02	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.
06-133-10	Marzan, Emeterio T.
06-056-05	Masa Corporation
06-085-07	Michelle Corporation
06-016-03	Micro Pacific, Inc.
06-012-03	Misamis Construction Saipan
06-086-07	Misamis Construction Saipan
06-117-08	MZ Corporation
06-139-10	MZ Corporation
06-072-06	New Pacific Rainbow Corp.
06-100-07	New Pacific Rainbow Corp.
06-010-02	Niizeki Int'l, Spn, Co., Ltd. dba GIG Discotheque
06-020-03	Oak Corporation, Inc.
06-145-11	Pacific Quality Builder, Inc.
06-140-10	Pacific Utility & Comm., Inc.
06-144-11	Pantaleon Valenzuela Services
06-013-03	Pestex Company
06-067-06	Po, Edwin
06-168-12	Poong In (Spn), Inc.
06-032-05	R & B Corporation

CASE NO.	RESPONDENT
06-113-08	RDA Enterprises, Inc.
06-155-11	Rejoice Beauty Salon and Dress Shop
06-069-06	Reyes Protective Agency
06-122-09	Reyes, Joaquin T.
06-017-03	Rifu Apparel Corp.
06-033-05	Rifu Apparel Corp.
06-076-06	Rongli Development Corp.
06-120-09	RYU Corp. dba Ipuoku Restaurant
06-150-11	Saint Trading
06-135-10	Saipan Crew Boat
06-080-06	Saipan Grand Hotel
06-081-06	Saipan Min River Corporation
06-019-03	Saipan Waste Management
06-116-08	Sam Kwang Saipan Corp.
06-064-05	Sam Marianas
06-154-11	Samsung Corporation
06-101-08	San Nicolas, Benedicta P.
06-108-08	SBR Ent., Inc. dba Day Care Center
06-057-05	Sea Lago, Inc.
06-115-08	Seman, Vicente T.
06-075-06	Sheu's Brothers Holding Co.
06-124-09	Smile Poker
06-114-08	Soo Jee Corporation
06-129-10	Success Corporation
06-153-11	Tandem Skydive Saipan, Inc.
06-152-11	Three Nine Corporation
06-058-05	Top Fashion, Inc.
06-125-09	Torres Refrigeration, Inc.
06-161-12	Tropical Productions
06-132-10	Two Eight Corporation
06-060-05	United International Corp.
06-061-05	United International Corp.
06-090-07	United International Corp.
06-156-11	United International Corp.
06-038-05	Uno Moda Corporation
06-059-05	Uno Mode Corporation
06-148-11	Wecco Elec. Contractor
06-103-08	White House Corp. dba Moonlight
06-109-08	White House Corp. dba Moonlight
06-164-12	Wilson, Tadeo dba Choi's Fishing Market
06-130-10	Winner's Corporation
06-003-01	Winner's II
06-028-04	Xu Lan Corporation
06-167-12	Yun's Corp. dba Town House Dept. Store
06-018-03	YZL Corporation
06-025-03	Zhang, Fu
06-128-10	Zhen Rui Brother Corp.

### What is this symbol used for?



- A. To show who has a mental illness
- B. To show something is accessible
- C. To let me park in blue spaces

For more contact the PAIMI program at  
NMPASI  
235-7273 or 235-7278 for TTY or  
online at [www.nmpasi.com](http://www.nmpasi.com)

Find your answers here on July 26, 2008

This ad paid for in full by the Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) program through funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS). The contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of SAMHSA/CMHS. Total cost: \$800. Total circulation: 18,300.





## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA08-007

OPENING DATE: July 17, 2008

Position: **Administrator** Location: **Saipan**

The Administrator is appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund. The Administrator is the Chief Executive Officer of the Retirement Fund ("Fund") and has full charge and control of the Pension program, the defined benefit plan and defined contribution plan, including the Member Home Loan Program; is the Administrator of the CNMI's Group Health and Life Insurance program; and is the executive head of the Workers' Compensation Commission.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** The successful applicant should hold a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited United States institution in Business Administration, Finance and Accounting, Business Management, Public Administration, or other related fields, and have at least four (4) years of supervisory and management experience. The successful applicant should also have experience in the administration of public health and welfare plans, including defined benefit and defined contribution plans; mortgage financing; loan servicing; accounting and contract procedures; and working knowledge of database application programs and modern office management techniques. Preference may be given to an applicant with a Master's Degree or other advanced degree in Business Administration, Public Administration, or other related fields, or equivalent relevant work experience in a pension program. Preference will also be given to an applicant who has knowledge of the principles of government budgetary processes, personnel administration, contract procedures, public administration, Workers' Compensation Commission, finance, and investments procedures.

A complete Position Description may be received by sending your request via e-mail to [sablanci@nmiretirement.com](mailto:sablanci@nmiretirement.com), or by calling the number below. All application packages must be received at the Fund office no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 15, 2008; applications will be accepted by hand delivery, e-mail, airmail and/or fax machine. Late or incomplete application packages will not be accepted. Interested applicants must submit their cover letter, resume, educational credentials and police clearance addressed to the following:

**Attention: Chairman, Board of Trustees**  
**NMI Retirement Fund**  
**P.O. Box 501247**  
**Saipan, MP 96950-1247**  
**Phone: 670/322-3863/4/5/6/7**  
**Fax: 670/664-8080**  
**E-Mail: [sablanci@nmiretirement.com](mailto:sablanci@nmiretirement.com)**



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DPW08-RFP-024

#### CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE ROUTE 11 SABANA ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, ROTA

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified Architectural/Engineering companies for the Construction Management Services of Route 11 Sabana Road and Drainage Improvements, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funding for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 4-102 of the Procurement Regulations.

Any corporation or partnership "firm" must have or obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Board of Professional Licensing (CNMI BOPL). Individuals and/or sole proprietors are required to possess a valid professional license issued by the CNMI BOPL.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after July 21, 2008 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Gualo Rai Commercial Building on August 7, 2008. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to ~&. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, 2d Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time August 21, 2008.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Company Background and Qualifications (5 pages maximum each company) - 25%
2. Qualifications of Team or assigned personnel and organizational structure (5 pages combined maximum) - 30%
3. Past Experience of team and/or assigned personnel on projects successfully completed of similar size and scope (10 pages combined maximum) - 25%
4. Current Workload of Firm (5 pages maximum) - 20%

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW08-RFP-024". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, August 26, 2008. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, August 26, 2008 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 26, 2008 and must be received no later than September 4, 2008. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussions shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made therefrom, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Architect-Engineer firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government, factors such as the prices proposed by other firms responding to the solicitation shall be considered. If a fair and reasonable price can not be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The successful A-E firm will be subjected to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301.

This project is funded in whole by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the FHWA. All offerors shall be subjected to the provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulations Part 52, Subpart 209-5, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Proposed Debarment, and Other Responsibility Matters, March 1996.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become property of the Government.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, Procurement and Supply

## State Board of Education PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PSS RFP# 08-023



The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting for competitive sealed proposals for the **Hardening of the Rota High School Covered Walkway**, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and plans are available at the PSS Procurement and Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950. A charge of \$10.00 will be assessed for the plan. FEMA and the NMHC has obligated portion of the project cost.

This Procurement is made in accordance with the PSS Procurement Regulation (PSSPR) Section 3-106, entitled "Competitive Sealed Proposals."

All interested companies are required to attend the pre-proposal conference and site visit on July 30, 2008 at 2:00 p.m., local time at the Rota High School in Songsong Village, Rota.

All responses to this Request For Proposal must take into account all taxes that the CNMI Government will assess if the contract is awarded, including the CNMI Excise Tax. All proposals must be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP# 08-023" containing the original plus five (5) copies, and be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office Situated on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time on August 15, 2008. No Bid Proposal submissions will be accepted after the closing under any circumstances.

All vendors are requested to submit with their proposal a copy of their CNMI Business License and other responsibility documents in compliance with PSSPT 3-301. The selection of the contractor(s) will be based on the following criteria: **Qualification** (20 points); **Performance** (20 points); **Price** (20 points); **Time Table** (20 points and **Warranty** (20 points) a total of 100 points.

In accordance with PSSPR Section 4-401, bid security of fifteen percent (15%) must accompany the proposal. This security may be certified check, cashier's check or a bid bond.

Inquiries to this proposal announcement may be directed to the PSS Acting Procurement & Supply Officer at telephone number 237-3062. Technical questions, however, must be in writing and must be addressed to W. David Loan, PSS CIP Coordinator. Questions can be either faxed to (670) 6643715 or e-mailed to [loand@pss.cnmi.mp](mailto:loand@pss.cnmi.mp).

The Public School System reserves the right to award a single or multiple awards, or to reject any or all bids if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System. All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ Craig H. Garrison  
Acting, Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta  
PSS Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DPW08-RFP-025

#### CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE ROUTE 201 ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, TINIAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified Architectural/Engineering companies for the Construction Management Services of the Route 201 Road and Drainage Improvements, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funding for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 4-102 of the Procurement Regulations.

Any corporation or partnership "firm" must have or obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Board of Professional Licensing (CNMI BOPL). Individuals and/or sole proprietors are required to possess a valid professional license issued by the CNMI BOPL.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after July 21, 2008 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Gualo Rai Commercial Building on August 7, 2008. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time August 21, 2008.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Company Background and Qualifications (5 pages maximum each company) - 25%
2. Qualifications of Team or assigned personnel and organizational structure (5 pages combined maximum) - 30%
3. Past Experience of team and/or assigned personnel on projects successfully completed of similar size and scope (10 pages combined maximum) - 25%
4. Current Workload of Firm (5 pages maximum) - 20%

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW08-RFP-025". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, August 26, 2008. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, August 26, 2008 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 26, 2008 and must be received no later than September 4, 2008. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussions shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made therefrom, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Architect-Engineer firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government, factors such as the prices proposed by other firms responding to the solicitation shall be considered. If a fair and reasonable price can not be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The successful A-E firm will be subjected to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301.

This project is funded in whole by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the FHWA. All offerors shall be subjected to the provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulations Part 52, Subpart 209-5, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Proposed Debarment, and Other Responsibility Matters, March 1996.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become property of the Government.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, Procurement and Supply



# Nation

## Tropical storm rumbles off the Carolinas

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—Tropical Storm Cristobal, the first tropical storm to menace the Southeast seaboard this hurricane season, sent outer bands of intermittent rain lashing the eastern Carolinas late Saturday as forecasters predicted it could dump several inches in some areas of drought-stricken North Carolina.

At 11 p.m. EDT, the center of the storm was about 45 miles southeast of Cape Fear, N.C., and about 170 miles southwest of Cape Hatteras, N.C. The National Hurricane Center said Cristobal was moving northeast at about 6 mph with maximum sustained winds of about 45 mph and some higher gusts.

"Basically the track is running parallel to the coast," said lead center forecaster Martin Nelson, speaking with The Associated Press by telephone from Miami. "Slow strengthening is forecast for the next day or two."

At the By The Sea Motel in

North Myrtle Beach, S.C., out-of-state visitors photographed outer storm bands as Cristobal churned off the coast, said hotel manager Charlie Peterson. Intermittent light rain fell in the afternoon but that wasn't enough to chase them away.

"They've got their cameras set and they think there is going to be lightning over the water," he said.

Bradley Rose, a surf instructor at SandBarz in Carolina Beach, N.C., said surfers took the plunge.

"It looks pretty fun out there," Rose said.

Tropical storm warnings remained in effect from north of Little River Inlet in South Carolina to the North Carolina-Virginia state line.

Flood advisories were posted for coastal counties and Wilmington, N.C., received 2 1/2 inches of rain Saturday, said Stephen Keebler, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service there.

Cristobal's winds were not expected to be a problem, Keebler said.

Forecasters predicted up to 5 inches of rain along the North Carolina coast, with heavier amounts in some areas.

Eastern North Carolina is under a moderate drought while areas along South Carolina's northern coast are considered abnormally dry, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Officials have blamed the drought for a huge wildfire that has charred more than 40,000 acres in eastern North Carolina since it began June 1 with a lightning strike.

## Woman in baby mystery eviscerated

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Investigators hoped to confirm Sunday the identity of a woman whose body was found bound with duct tape with her uterus cut open in the apartment of another woman who falsely claimed a newborn baby was her own.

The Allegheny County Medical Examiner's office has tentatively identified the victim as Kia Johnson, an investigator at the office who declined to give her name said Saturday night. Officials hoped to confirm the identity Sunday using dental records.

The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported earlier Saturday that Johnson's family had spoken to police. The paper said she was 18 years old and due to deliver July 30.

Allegheny County Police Assistant Superintendent James Morton said investigators were also trying to verify that the dead woman was the mother of a baby brought by Andrea Curry-Demus to West Penn Hospital on Thursday night.

gone. Had police go with me yesterday, it's all clear." Authorities say that by Friday morning, Clinton W. Lewis had come back and taken off with his wife. Now her family is worried about the 29-year-old air defense artillery soldier and mother of three children. Army officials reported Jeneesa Lewis missing Friday morning after she didn't show up at work and no one appeared to be in her locked apartment. When El Paso police arrived and went into the apartment the couple had shared, the place was a mess and there was blood, Skelton said.

### Search team finds no sign of Steve Fossett

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—A team of elite athletes and expert mountaineers has ended a weeklong hunt for Steve Fossett, finding no sign of the missing adventurer or his plane but eliminating miles of rugged terrain from areas that still must be searched. The 10 searchers, headed by Canadian geologist and adventure racer Simon Donato, 31, packed up their gear on Saturday after taking a day to explore a steep canyon in Nevada's Wassuk Range, dominated by 11,239-foot-high Mount Grant. That followed six days of hiking in the Sweetwater Mountains and Bodie Hills to the west, on the state's border with California.

# Asia

## Obama visits Afghanistan



AP

In this photo released by the U.S. Army in Kuwait, Democratic presidential contender Barack Obama shakes hands with US troops when he visited Camp Arifjan, the main US military base in Kuwait and a major gateway for US soldiers moving into and out of Iraq, on Friday July 18 2008. The Illinois senator was en route to Afghanistan.

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Democratic presidential contender Barack Obama shared Sunday breakfast with American troops in Kabul ahead of an expected meeting with Afghan leader Hamid Karzai, a man Obama has criticized for not doing enough to rebuild his war-torn country.

Obama and the other senators traveling with him met with soldiers and sailors from their respective constituencies, said Lt. Col. Dave Johnson, a U.S. military spokesman.

"The food was great, but the company was better," Johnson said.

Obama has made Afghanistan, where Taliban and al-Qaida-linked militants are resurgent, a centerpiece of his proposed strategy for dealing with terror threats. The candidate has said the war in Afghanistan deserves more troops and more attention as opposed to the conflict in Iraq.

While officially a part of a congressional delegation on a fact-finding tour also expected to take him to Iraq, Obama was traveling in Afghanistan amid the publicity and scrutiny accorded a likely Democratic nominee for president rather than a senator from Illinois. Security was tight and media access to Obama was limited by his campaign.

Traveling with Obama were Sens. Chuck Hagel, a Nebraska Republican, and Jack Reed, a Democrat from Rhode Island.

## Tropical storm kills 13 in Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Tropical storm Kalmaegi churned along the Chinese coast Saturday, after leaving 13 dead in heavily populated Taiwan and its president scrambling to explain the island's apparent lack of preparedness in the face of the devastation.

President Ma Ying-jeou, faced with the first major natural disaster since his May 20 inauguration, blamed the lack of preparedness for the storm on

the Central Weather Bureau, which he said provided inadequate warning to the island's residents.

The bureau said some parts of the south had recorded up to 39 inches (100 centimeters) of rain, much higher than its original prediction of up to 14 inches (35 centimeters).

Kalmaegi has also caused agricultural damage estimated at NT\$310 million (US\$10.2 million), Taiwanese authorities said.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Confessed killer of RP eagle taken into custody

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Leaders of a southern tribal community took custody Friday of a man who confessed he killed an endangered Philippine eagle four months after it was released back into the wild following treatment for a gunshot wound. About 800 of the giant birds, also known as monkey-eating eagles, are believed to remain in the Philippines, where deforestation and poaching threaten their survival. Higaonon tribal leaders were allowed to take custody of the suspect, Brian Bala-on, and will deal with him according to their justice system.

#### 9 Afghan police killed in clashes with troops

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An official says foreign troops called in airstrikes during an apparently mistaken clash with Afghan police, killing nine police officers and wounding five in the country's west. Younus Rasuli, the deputy governor of Farah province, said a convoy of foreign forces - possibly NATO or those from the U.S.-led coalition - showed up at Anar Derah district, near the Iranian border. He says the foreign troops had not informed local Afghan officials they were coming, and the police thought they were enemy fighters.

#### Cambodia: Little hope for Thai talks

PREAH VIHEAR, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia has informed the U.N. Security Council that Thai forces have violated its territory near an ancient World Heritage Site temple where hundreds of troops continued to face off Sunday. Cambodia's permanent mission in New York submitted a letter to the chairman of the Secu-

rity Council and the chairman of the General Assembly to "draw their attention to the current situation on the Cambodian-Thai border," Information Minister Khieu Kanharith said. "Cambodia is not asking for U.N. intervention. We still stick to Prime Minister Hun Sen's instructions to try to solve the problem peacefully between the two sides," the minister told reporters in the Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh.

#### Unification Church founder Moon hurt in crash

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A helicopter carrying the Rev. Sun Myung Moon crashed into a mountainside Saturday as it attempted an emergency landing, injuring the founder of the Unification Church and 15 others, officials said. Moon, 88, was slightly injured in the crash, a hospital official said. Members of Moon's family, including his wife, were also hurt, and one person suffered a serious back injury, fire official Kim Wu-jong said. The S-92 helicopter was carrying 16 people, including 13 church members, when it crashed and burst into flames, the transportation ministry said.

#### Beijing begins massive Olympic shutdown

BEIJING (AP)—Beijing's Olympic shutdown begins Sunday, a drastic plan to lift the Chinese capital's gray shroud of pollution just three weeks ahead of the games. Half of Beijing's 3.3 million vehicles will be pulled off the roads and many polluting factories will be shuttered. Chemical plants, power stations and foundries left open have to cut emissions by 30 percent—and dust-spewing construction in the capital will be halted. A World Bank study found China is home to 16 of the 20 worst cities for air quality.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Investigation of Houston crane collapse begins

HOUSTON (AP)—Federal investigators on Saturday began trying to figure out why one of the world's largest mobile cranes toppled over, killing four contract workers and injuring seven others. Officials said it could take time before knowing what caused the 30-story-tall crane to collapse Friday at a LyondellBasell refinery in Houston, the latest of several deadly crane accidents around the country. The massive crane, capable of lifting 1 million pounds, was owned by Deep South Crane & Rigging, which Saturday released the names of its four workers killed in the accident. The four men killed were: Marion "Scooter" Hubert Odom III, 41, of Highlands; John D. Henry, 33, of Dayton; Daniel "DJ" Lee Johnson, 30, of Dayton; and Rocky Dale Strength, 30, of Santa Fe, Texas.

#### Search continues for missing Fort Bliss soldier

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—A missing Fort Bliss soldier sent a text message about leaving her husband two days before she vanished, her sister said Saturday. "Hey sis he's gone so when my check comes I'm going to buy a futon," Army Pfc. Jeneesa Lewis wrote in the text message Wednesday, said her sister, Tammy Skelton. "Yeah, he's



# World

## Nazi reference rocks WTO talks

GENEVA (AP)—Some pre-negotiation jabbing turned into a potentially damaging diplomatic incident Saturday when Brazil’s foreign minister said rich countries’ deception in trade talks reminded him of tactics used by Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels.

His comments drew a sharp rebuke from the United States, whose chief trade negotiator, Susan Schwab, is the daughter of Jewish Holocaust survivors. Her spokesman described the reference to Goebbels as “incredibly wrong.”

The controversy threatens to

overshadow next week’s last-ditch effort to save seven years of frustrating talks on a new global trade pact toward alleviating poverty around the world.

The so-called Doha trade round is already teetering on the brink of collapse. President Bush has made a Doha deal a key part of his trade agenda.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said the U.S., Europe and other wealthy economies have so frequently misrepresented the talks launched in Qatar’s capital in 2001 that public perception has become totally warped.

## Pope to youths: Spurn materialism

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI urged young people Sunday to reject what he said was the “spiritual desert” spreading throughout the world and to embrace Christianity to build a new age free from greed and materialism.

At a Mass before more than 200,000 young Roman Catholic pilgrims in Sydney, Benedict said “the world needs renewal” and challenged them to be the agents of change.

“In so many of our societies, side by side with material prosperity, a spiritual desert is spreading: an interior emptiness, an unnamed fear, a quiet sense of despair,” the pontiff said.

The 81-year-old pope said it was up to a new generation of Christians to build a world in “which God’s gift of life is welcomed, respected and cherished—not rejected, feared as a threat and destroyed.”

### WORLD BRIEFS

## Iraqi leader: US should leave as soon as possible

BERLIN (AP)—Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki says U.S. troops should leave Iraq “as soon as possible,” according to a magazine report, and he called presidential candidate Barack Obama’s suggestion of 16 months “the right timeframe for a withdrawal.” In Baghdad, however, the chief spokesman for al-Maliki issued a statement Sunday saying the prime minister’s comments were “not conveyed accurately” by Germany’s Der Spiegel magazine. The Der Spiegel article, released Saturday, quoted al-Maliki as giving apparent backing to the withdrawal plans discussed by Obama - the Illinois senator and likely Democratic nominee has pledged to withdraw combat troops from Iraq within 16 months if he is elected.

## Dignitaries attend Mandela’s b’day party

QUNU, South Africa (AP)—Songs, laughter, teasing and tender words marked Nelson Mandela’s 90th birthday celebration Saturday as presidents, village elders and African royalty joined him for a festive luncheon on his rural homestead. The Nobel Peace Prize winner celebrated privately with his family in this rural southeastern village Friday, the day he turned 90. Saturday was a grand occasion, held in a tent outside his homestead in Qunu, 600 miles south of Johannesburg, where as a boy he herded cattle in the hills. The anti-apartheid icon walked into the tent with his successor to the South African presidency, Thabo Mbeki, and African National Congress leader Jacob Zuma.

## Iraqi Sunni bloc rejoins government

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq’s largest Sunni Arab political bloc returned to the government fold Saturday after calling off a nearly one-year boycott of the Shiite-dominated leadership—another critical stride toward healing sectarian rifts. The return of the National Accordance Front does more than politically reunite some of Iraq’s main centers of power. It was seen as a significant advance toward reconciliation and efforts to cement security cooperation between Shiite-led forces and armed Sunni groups that rose up against al-Qaida in Iraq. The United States has pressured Iraq’s government to work toward settling the sectarian feuds, which brought daily bloodshed until recent months.

## Iran nuclear talks stall, even with US at table

GENEVA (AP)—A U.S. decision to bend policy and sit down with Iran at nuclear talks fizzled Saturday, with Iran stonewalling Washington and five other world powers on their call to freeze uranium enrichment. In response, the six gave Iran two weeks to respond to their demand, setting the stage for a new round of U.N. sanctions. Iran’s refusal to consider suspending enrichment was an indirect slap at the United States, which had sent Undersecretary of State William Burns to the talks in hopes the first-time American presence would encourage Tehran into making concessions. Officials and diplomats refused to characterize the timeframe as an ultimatum, but it appeared clear that Iran now has a de-facto deadline to show flexibility.

# ‘Al-Qaida easing effort in Iraq’

BAGHDAD (AP)—After intense U.S. assaults, al-Qaida may be considering shifting focus to its original home base in Afghanistan, where American casualties are running higher than in Iraq, the top U.S. commander in Iraq said Saturday.

“We do think that there is some assessment ongoing as to the continued viability of al-Qaida’s fight in Iraq,” Gen. David Petraeus told The Associated Press in an interview at his office at the U.S. Embassy.

Whatever the result, Petraeus said no one should expect al-Qaida to give up entirely in Iraq.

“They’re not going to abandon Iraq. They’re not going to write it off. None of that,” he said. “But what they certainly may do is start to provide some of those resources that would have come to Iraq to Pakistan, possibly Afghanistan.”

He said there are signs that foreign fighters recruited by al-Qaida to do battle in Iraq are being diverted to the largely un-


governed areas in Pakistan from which the fighters can cross into Afghanistan. U.S. officials have pressed Pakistan for more than a year to halt the cross-border infiltration. It remains a major worry not only for the war in Afghanistan but also for Pakistan’s stability.

Discussing al-Qaida in cautious terms, Petraeus said he is not certain of the reliability of the intelligence information about the terrorist network’s latest thinking. He was ada-


mant, however, that until now al-Qaida has seen Iraq as its best opportunity for establishing a militant Islamic state closer to the Persian Gulf.

“That could be under review,” Petraeus said. “We do think they are considering what should be the main effort.”

He offered a mostly upbeat assessment of conditions in Iraq just weeks before he is to make a recommendation on whether to further reduce U.S. troop levels.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950



**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST**

HERMAN M. GUERRERO aka Herman M. Deleon Guerrero and Asunta T. Guerrero aka Asunta T. Deleon Guerrero (collectively "Trustor"), on or about July 18, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on July 18, 1983, under Document No. 17740 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property located in San Vicente and hereafter described:

**Tract number 20472-9, and containing an area of 926 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on drawing/cadastral plot number 2064/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as document number 14154, on the 26th day of March, 1982.**

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on March 11, 2008. Thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 15, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$91,150.00, the total amount due under the USDA, Rural Development loan including Trustee's expenses. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **August 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked no later than August 5, 2008 and must be received no later than August 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of \$91,150.00 shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.


The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2008.


By: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO  
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

\*\*\*NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency\*\*\*



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950



**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST**

ERMIAS M. IGUEL and DIONICIA O. IGUEL (collectively "Trustor"), on or about July 30, 1984, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on July 31, 1984, under File No. 84-1365 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property located in Chalan Kanoa and hereafter described:

**Lot number 014 H 11, and containing an area of 360 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on drawing/cadastral plot number 014 H 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as document number 705, on the 1st day of March, 1971.**

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on May 18, 2006. Thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 15, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$95,020.00, the total amount due under the USDA, Rural Development loan including Trustee's expenses. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **August 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked no later than August 5, 2008 and must be received no later than August 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of \$95,020.00 shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.


The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2008.


By: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO  
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST**

VICENTE W. KAIPAT and LEONILA S. KAIPAT (collectively "Trustor"), on or about April 21, 1994, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation formerly known as Marianas Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on May 10, 1994, under Document No. 94-1199 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property located in Koblerville and hereafter described:

**Lot No. 005 I 330, containing an area of 1,109 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey's Official Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 07, dated September 8, 1982, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 18433, dated September 30, 1983 the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.**

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on March 19, 2008. Thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 15, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$116,930.00, the total amount due under the USDA, Rural Development loan including Trustee's expenses. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **August 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked no later than August 5, 2008 and must be received no later than August 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of \$116,930.00 shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.


The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2008.


By: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO  
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST**

JOSEPH B. SONGSONG and MARIA M. SONGSONG (collectively "Trustor"), on or about April 2, 1982, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation formerly known as Marianas Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on April 2, 1982, under Document No. 14220 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property located in Sadog Tasi and hereafter described:

**TRACT NUMBER 21899-2, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 767 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 2086/81, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 12450, ON THE 9TH DAY OF JULY, 1981.**

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on July 1, 2005. Thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 15, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$58,240.00, the total amount due under the USDA, Rural Development loan including Trustee's expenses. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **August 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked no later than August 5, 2008 and must be received no later than August 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of \$58,240.00 shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2008.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO  
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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# Health & Fitness

## Getting rid of ab-solute disappointment

By HOWARD SCHNEIDER  
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Let's start with a few truths about ab training in general.

First, it's annoying.

The abdominals are a complicated set of muscles and developing them all requires three or four different exercises.

Second, no matter how many ab exercises you do, it's still quite possible you won't see the muscles, or at least not all of them, or not in the same sharp relief we carry as an ideal. Because despite what the infomercials and the ripping, shredding, ab-torching DVDs or training programs tell you, exercise is only part of the battle.

The other part is diet: For most of us, men or women, the abdominals are not going to emerge until the body fat drops, maybe to as low as 10 or 12 percent, though that will vary from person to person.

The point of this is not to disappoint or dissuade, but to reorient. The favorite go-to abdominal exercises include:

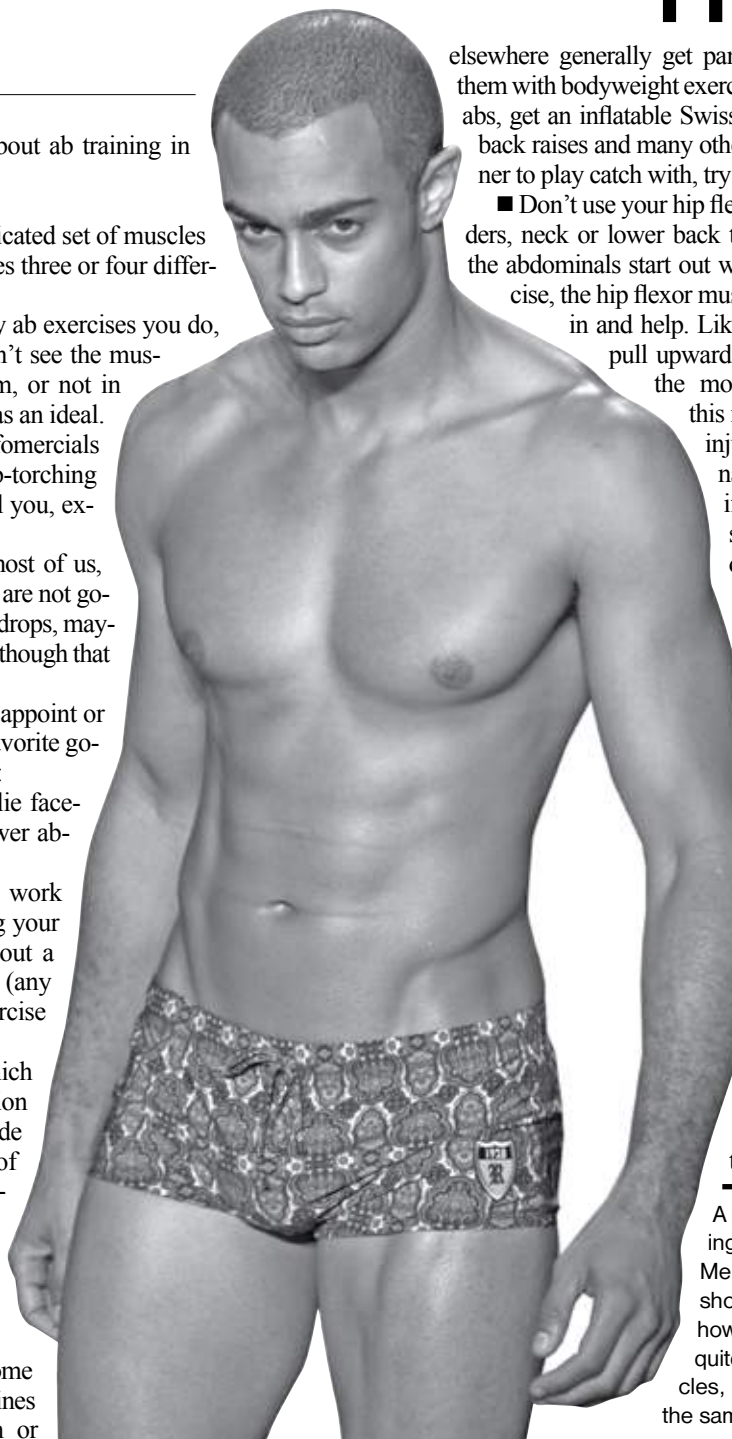
■ Leg raises, in which you lie face-up on the floor and use the lower abdominals to lift your legs.

■ Crunches, in which you work the upper abdominals by lifting your upper body off the ground about a third of the way to the knees (any higher and the value of the exercise declines).

■ "Crisscross crunches," which use the standard bicycle motion to work the obliques but include a three-second hold at the end of each twist to eliminate any assist from momentum.

But the "don'ts" are equally important, are pretty universal, and good to keep in mind as you craft a program:

■ Don't buy expensive home equipment. The fancy ab machines that get peddled on television or



elsewhere generally get panned when physiologists compare them with bodyweight exercises. If you want a toy to build your abs, get an inflatable Swiss ball, which is good for crunches, back raises and many other exercises. Or, if you have a partner to play catch with, try a weighted medicine ball.

■ Don't use your hip flexors or, for that matter, your shoulders, neck or lower back to do work meant for your abs. If the abdominals start out weak or grow fatigued during exercise, the hip flexor muscles at the top of the leg often kick in and help. Likewise, some ab exercises make us pull upward with the neck or arch the back if the motion proves difficult. Continuing this increases the risk of muscle or joint injury. Focus on working the abdominals and relaxing those other parts; if that does not work, stop, rest and start another set (or switch to a less difficult exercise).

■ Don't just do a million crunches. Doing your limit of this old standard might feel like a workout and might do wonders for the upper abdominals. But as noted above, you need to balance things with exercise that works the rest of the abdominal girdle as well, and also the lower back.

■ Don't obsess. The "Bay-watch" body isn't worth the time it takes to maintain, and often doesn't work as well as it looks. Next time you ogle one of those musclemen on the beach, consider this: He might look great in that Speedo, but how well do you think he can throw a Frisbee?

A model walks down the runway wearing Red Carter swimwear during the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Swim show in Miami Beach, Fla. No matter how many ab exercises you do, it's still quite possible you won't see the muscles, or at least not all of them, or not in the same sharp relief we carry as an ideal.

### FROM START TO FITNESS

## Home treadmill or clothes rack?

By ANDREA RENEE WYATT,  
M.S.S., C.S.C.S.  
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

**Q: After I retired, my husband bought me a treadmill so I could work out at home. At first I thought this would be a great idea, allowing me to exercise whenever I wanted, but this hasn't been the case. I find myself walking past the treadmill in our bedroom and choosing to do something else with my time. I need to work out and want to use my treadmill. How can I motivate myself to not walk past it and actually use it?**

**A:** Home exercise equipment often becomes another addition to your household furniture. Once brought home, treadmills, stationary bikes and the like frequently find another use—as a clothes rack or laundry hamper. This does not have to be the case for everyone. Finding the best place in your home for a treadmill and making a dedicated space to exercise can make using your treadmill more appealing.

The idea of wanting to exercise at home is great. Having the option to walk or run at home without having to go outside or to the gym can be a great option. But just placing the treadmill inside your home might not automatically motivate you to use it. When you see the treadmill in your room each day, it may make you feel as if you can "exercise later" or "start tomorrow," since the treadmill is not going anywhere.

First, find a place for your treadmill that will be comfortable, motivating and removed from other distractions. If you have the space, find a room other than your bedroom for the treadmill, and try to avoid placing it where you can see other "work" or projects you want to complete. Seeing what else you could or should be doing may "guilt" you into choosing to complete those projects instead of working out. Place music, a television or telephone in this room if you find yourself leaving your workout to do something else.

If you do not have a separate room for your treadmill, try to create a space where you can reach it without stepping over furniture or other household items. Position your treadmill near a window or open space to create a view that can motivate you and eliminate a feeling of "working out" in your room.

And no matter how much exercise equipment you have at home, you will have to continue to make the time to use it. Scheduling time to exercise and sticking with your schedule each day can help you get into a habit of using your treadmill.

Avoid the temptation to use your treadmill for anything other than exercising, and ask others in your home to do the same. One shirt thrown on the treadmill can trigger an avalanche of clothes and other non-exercise items. Enjoy the benefits of exercising at home by planning and remembering why the treadmill is there.



COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER  
VOLUNTEERS' ASSOCIATION  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER

### PUBLIC NOTICE July 15, 2008

The Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers' Association through its president Kim Coats hereby informs the general public that the Volunteer Association will hold its annual general membership meeting to be held at 6:00PM, July 29, 2008, in the Conference Room at the Commonwealth Health Center Jose T. Villagomez Wing, First Floor, Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Saipan. The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

#### AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
  1. Roll call
  2. Adoption of agenda
- II. CURRENT PROJECTS
- III. ELECTIONS OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS
- IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and encouraged to give of your valuable time to support your local hospital volunteer organization which benefits everyone in the CNMI.

/s/ Kim Coats  
President, Commonwealth Health Center  
Volunteers' Association



## MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a Special Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, **July 23, 2008** at 9:00 a.m. at the Napu Room, of the Pacific Islands Club, Saipan, MP 96950.

#### AGENDA

- 1) Preliminary Matters
  - Call to Order
  - Roll Call
  - Adoption of Agenda
- 2) Public Comments
- 3) New Business
  - a. MVA-RFP-08-2292 - Representation, Promotional and Public Relation Services for the Japan Market
  - b. MVA-RFP-08-2293 - Security Services
  - c. Election of Officers
- 4) Executive Session
  - a. MVA-RFP-08-2292 - Representation, Promotional and Public Relation Services for the Japan Market
  - b. MVA-RFP-08-2293 - Security Services
- 5) Adjournment

/s/ Jerry Tan  
Chairman, MVA Board of Directors



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950



### NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

ELOY T. DELA CRUZ and SHIRLEY ANN R. DELA CRUZ (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 23, 2002, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 23, 2002, under Document No. 02-2209 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property located in Kagman and hereafter described:

Lot No. 002 G 263, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1969, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1904, dated May 14, 1990, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on February 29, 2008, Thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 15, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$85,060.00, the total amount due under the USDA, Rural Development loan including Trustee's expenses. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than August 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked no later than August 5, 2008 and must be received no later than August 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Unlabeled sealed bids will be rejected.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of \$85,060.00 shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale. Failure to make payment within the 72-hour period will result in forfeiture of all said bidder's rights, title, and interest and the aforementioned property will automatically revert back to NMHC.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2008.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO  
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

\*\*\*NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency\*\*\*



# Life & Style

## 'Dark Knight' sets record with \$66.4M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Batman's joust with the Joker has set another box office record. Stoked by fan fever over the manic performance of the late Heath Ledger as the Joker, "The Dark Knight" set a one-day box office record with \$66.4 million on opening day, Warner Bros. head of distribution Dan Fellman said Saturday.

The movie's Friday haul surpassed the previous record of \$59.8 million set last year by "Spider-Man 3." "The Dark Knight" might break the opening-weekend record of \$151.1 million, also held by "Spider-Man 3."

"I think they're in jeopardy," Fellman said of the "Spider-Man 3" records.

"The Dark Knight" began with a record \$18.5 million from midnight screenings, topping the previous high of \$16.9 million for "Star Wars: Episode III - The Revenge of the Sith."

The opening day grosses for "The Dark Knight" far exceeded the full weekend haul of its predecessor, "Batman Begins," which took in \$48.7 million in

its first three days in 2005.

Reviews were excellent for director Christopher Nolan's "Batman Begins," but they were stellar for his "Dark Knight."

"We've really never seen anything like this," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Media By Numbers. "The death of a fine actor taken in his prime, a legendary performance, and a movie that lives up to all the hype. That all combined to create these record-breaking numbers."

Buzz had been high for the Batman sequel well before Ledger died of an accidental prescription-drug overdose in January. Trailers last fall revealing Ledger's demented Joker, with crooked clown makeup, turned up the heat even more. The critical acclaim over his performance that built from advance screenings left fans in a frenzy.

"It's a combination of things.

Certainly, that's a great part of it, but I think this movie's gross was partly because of the reviews it received and the incredible buzz and word of mouth that preceded it with our early screenings,"

vigilante crime-fighter tormented by personal tragedy, and co-stars Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman and Gary Oldman. Maggie Gyllenhaal also stars.

The film spins an epic crime duel as Ledger's Joker orchestrates a reign of terror on the city of Gotham aimed to spread chaos and break down the restraint that keeps Batman on the right side of the law.

While critics are taking the film seriously enough to suggest Ledger could be in line for an Academy Award nomination, the action-packed movie also delivers as pure summer movie escapism.

"If you're worried about mortgage payments and gas prices, when you're sitting in 'The Dark Knight' for two and a half hours, you're not thinking about any of that stuff," Dergarabedian said.

### The Dark Knight conquers the box office

The stampede of bat-fans to see 'The Dark Knight' set a new one-day motion picture industry record with \$66.4 million.

Top single-day movie grosses of all-time as of 7/19/08

<b>The Dark Knight</b> (Warner/Bros.) 7/18/08	\$66.4 million
<b>Spider-Man 3</b> (SONY) 5/4/2007	\$59.4
<b>Pirates of the Caribbean (Dead Man's Chest)</b> 7/7/2006	\$55.8
<b>Spider-Man 3</b> (SONY) 5/5/2007	\$51.3
<b>Star Wars: Episode III (Revenge of the Sith)</b> (SONY) 5/19/2005	\$50.0
<b>Shrek The Third</b> (Paramount) 5/19/2007	\$47.1
<b>X-Men: The Last Stand</b> (FOX) 5/26/2006	\$45.1
<b>Shrek 2</b> (Dreamworks) 5/22/2004	\$44.8
<b>Pirates of the Caribbean (Dead Man's Chest)</b> (BV) 7/8/2006	\$44.4
<b>Spider-Man</b> (SONY) 5/3/2002	\$43.6
<b>Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End</b> (BV) 5/25/2007	\$42.9

SOURCE: Media by Numbers

AP

Fellman said. "And the success and quality of the last one, 'Batman Begins,' delivered by Chris Nolan just set the tone for the opening of this movie."

"The Dark Knight" reunites Christian Bale as Batman, the

## Guardian's cancer diagnosis puts boy's future in question

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** My cousin's 9-year-old son, "Andy," has been living with me for the past few years. Now my husband has been diagnosed with cancer, and I must return Andy to his mother.



*Dear Abby*

Abby, his mother is an alcoholic and drug addict. She has no income, and the list goes on. How do I return that boy to this type of environment? My immediate and extended families insist he go home to his mother, but I am worried about his future. What do I do? I need to concentrate and focus on my husband's health, but who will give Andy the care that he needs?

WORRIED AUNT IN COLORADO

**DEAR WORRIED AUNT:** There is an alternative to returning Andy to that unhealthy environment, but it will require cooperation from your immediate and extended families. Keep the child with you, but have him stay with the relatives at the times your husband is getting his treatments. If they are unwilling, perhaps the parents of some of Andy's friends would be willing to help out. Please give it a try and let me know what happens, because the best place for Andy is with responsible people who know and love him.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I am in my early 40s. Most of my good friends, whom I have known my whole life, have not given a second thought to our approaching "golden years." No one is saving money for retirement, participating in any sort of plan or even thinking about how they will manage later in life.

They all have fun, interesting, low-paying jobs. This mindset may have been fine 20 years ago, but we aren't kids anymore. I worry that when my friends are senior citizens they will be destitute. They laugh off my worries.

My parents are enjoying a modest but comfortable retirement which they worked for—and planned for—most of their lives. I want the same for myself and my friends. How can I inspire them to take action?

TOM IN LONG BEACH, CALIF.

**DEAR TOM:** You are a caring and wise friend who is surrounded by perpetual adolescents. Sometimes people can be their own worst enemies, and it's not always possible to save them from themselves.

Talking to people who choose to live for today while ignoring the importance of preparing for tomorrow won't work. A better approach would be to teach them by example, then cross your fingers and hope they catch on.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Perhaps you can settle a minor disagreement between a fellow bartender and me. I say it is impolite to remove a cash tip from the bar before a patron leaves. She, however, just grabs the money and counts it—right in front of the customer. She thinks it's OK because the customer wants to be acknowledged and thanked.

Abby, I always thank my customers, whether they tip or not, and I think counting money in front of them sends a message that we value their gratuity more than their business.

What is the polite way to handle this?

SHAKEN, NOT STIRRED IN MARCO ISLAND, FLA.

**DEAR "S.N.S.":** Your co-worker's technique makes me wonder if her acknowledgment is given on a sliding scale, commensurate with the tip. (Ten percent gets a nod. Fifteen percent gets a smile. Twenty percent and she says, "Come back soon!")

I prefer your more low-key and appropriate method—and it isn't even close.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

## Jolie, twins slip out of hospital in Nice



AP

American actress Angelina Jolie and American actor Brad Pitt arrive for the premiere of the film "Changeling" at the 61st international Cannes film festival, on Tuesday, May 20, 2008.

PARIS (AP)—Angelina Jolie has left the building. Oh, and so have the twins. Before dawn Saturday, the Hollywood superstar and her newborn twins left the French Riviera hospital where she gave birth a week ago, the hospital said in a statement.

"The mother and her babies are doing very well," reported the Fondation Lenval hospital, located in the southern Mediterranean city of Nice.

Jolie slipped out at 4 a.m. Saturday with the twins, Knox Leon and Vivienne Marcheline Jolie-Pitt, deftly evading most of the paparazzi who have followed the family for months in southern France, ever since Jolie arrived for the Cannes film festival in May. It was not immediately clear if the twins' father, actor Brad Pitt, was with them.

AP Television cameras outside the hospital filmed a large white van with tinted windows leaving one of the hospital's back entrances at that time. No other vehicles left the hospital for the next several hours.

Jolie, 33, checked into the hospital on July 2 and delivered the babies by C-section ten days later. Knox Leon weighed 5.03 pounds and the Vivienne Marcheline 5 pounds.

Jolie's obstetrician, Dr. Michel Sussmann, told reporters after the birth that the 44-year-old Pitt was at Jolie's side during the delivery, which he said had been pushed up from its originally planned date "for medical reasons" so the babies could be born "in the best conditions."

The Jolie-Pitt clan had rented four rooms on the fifth floor of the maternity ward of the Lenval hospital, appropriately located on Nice's beach-front California Avenue. The hospital had treated the mirrored blue windows of Jolie's room, which looked out the Mediterranean, with a special material that blocked telephoto lenses from peering in.

Jolie managed to check into the hospital unobserved, reportedly arriving by helicopter on the hospital's rooftop helipad. That fueled rumors she would also leave the clinic by helicopter.

In its statement, the Fondation Lenval thanked the Jolie-Pitts for choosing its hospital. It also thanked the hospital staff "for the attention and care they paid to the family" and the "journalists around the hospital who did their best to respect their privacy."

The Nice-Matin newspaper has reported that an unnamed U.S. publication has paid \$11 million for exclusive rights to the first photos of the Jolie-Pitt twins and that the proceeds will go to charity.

Jolie and Pitt have four other children—Maddox, 6; Pax, 4; Zahara, 3; and Shiloh, 2. Before Jolie checked into the hospital in Nice, the family set up a household in Correns, 60 miles away.

Jolie's latest film, the thriller "Wanted" with James McAvoy, has racked up \$112 million in its first three weeks in the United States. The action flick—about a secret society of assassins stars Jolie as a gun-toting sexpot—opened last week in France.

## Rapper DMX arrested at Phoenix mall

PHOENIX (AP)—Rapper DMX was arrested at a Phoenix mall Saturday on suspicion that he gave a false name and Social Security number to a hospital to get out of paying for medical expenses.

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio said that when DMX, whose real name is Earl Simmons, went to Scottsdale's Mayo Clinic in April, he used the name "Troy Jones" and failed to pay a \$7,500 bill.

DMX's Scottsdale attorney, Cameron Morgan, declined to comment.

Arpaio said his office be-

gan investigating the charge following an animal neglect investigation last year at the 37-year-old rapper's north Phoenix home. DMX was arrested in that case on felony drug possession and misdemeanor animal cruelty charges after authorities seized 12 pit bull dogs and dug up the remains of three others.

Arpaio said the bond had not been set in the recent arrest.

If DMX remains jailed, the sheriff said he would be isolated from the rest of the inmates for his own safety. "They may not like his music," he said.



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



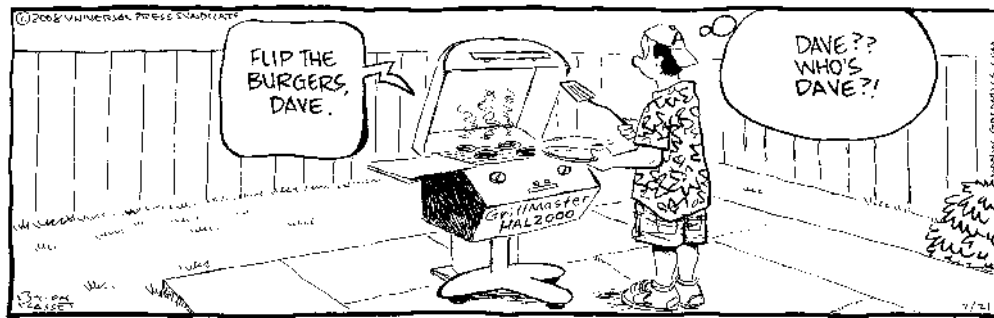
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



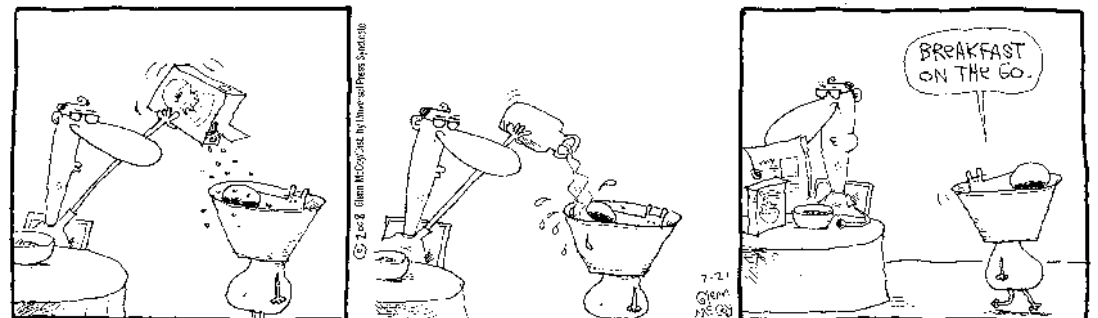
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Many millennia  
4 PC alternative  
7 Involved with  
11 Pirates' drink  
13 Part of "to be"  
14 Hammer target  
15 Fence opening  
16 Zero  
17 Changed color  
18 Sailing vessel  
20 Ms. Moore  
22 Snitch (on)  
24 "Scram!"  
28 Battled for a bargain  
32 Grit your teeth  
33 Jai —  
34 Neither mate  
36 Pinnacle  
37 Tennessee's Sen. Alexander  
39 California city  
Dionne sang about

**DOWN**

19 Crony  
21 "Family Guy" daughter  
23 Perfect score  
25 Mexican entree  
26 Doctrines  
27 Quaker's address  
28 Patriot Nathan  
29 Winged  
30 Set  
31 — and don'ts  
35 Aries beast  
38 Regret  
40 Beverage made with  
1-Down  
42 Antitoxin  
45 Misplace  
47 Vicinity  
48 Edges  
49 Floral neckwear  
50 "— Miserables"  
51 Pen filler  
52 Yours truly (Fr.)  
54 Morning moisture

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

**Saturday's answer 7-21**

S	K	U	F	F	R	O	S	F
A	P	O	L	L	O	M	U	T
B	A	T	T	E	R	B	E	T
O	R	E	A	G	E	R	S	I
V	E	R	O	N	O	U	R	G
E	S	S	E	S	D	I	S	N
E	S	S	E	S	D	I	S	N
A	R	T	E	M	I	S	D	E
I	O	O	N	T	O	U	R	F
T	O	F	L	Y	N	N	S	K
B	U	T	T	E	R	B	I	T
N	S	I	T	U	A	C	I	T
D	Y	I	A	N	R	E	T	R

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Damian Marley, 30; Josh Hartnett, 30; Jon Lovitz, 51; Robin Williams, 57

**Happy Birthday:** Take in all you can that is unique and unfamiliar to you this year. The knowledge you pick up will determine what you do next. There is financial gain in the future if you aren't too conservative. Open up to new ideas and don't be afraid of what lies ahead. You can gain from the experience. Your numbers are 4, 10, 18, 22, 31, 40

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** You can make headway at home if you focus on fixing, amending or changing what needs alterations. An interview or chance to move ahead professionally is apparent if you put in time, effort and detail. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Do what comes naturally and you will avoid trouble. A bargain can be found. A relationship you have with a friend is probably not what it appears. Don't share too many of your secrets just yet. \*\*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Emotional upset will develop because of what someone else does. Don't let your vulnerability cause you to make a snap decision. Stick close to the people you know you can trust. Being responsible will help you find a good solution. \*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Be aggressive and proactive to get things done to your specifications. Add a little detail to something you are working on at home, and someone you love will be appreciative. A conversation will lead to new beginnings. \*\*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** It's time to make money, not give it away. Put some thought into what you can do to expand your financial earnings. Industrious efforts will pay off and enable you to be the generous Leo you like to be. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You'll try to please everyone around you but, before you get all wrapped up in doing for others, consider doing something special for you. Research something you want to try or pick up a gift for yourself to help you get through your day with a little less stress. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Don't meddle, get involved in things that aren't your responsibility or try to be something or someone you are not. Put your heart and soul into accomplishment and using your talents. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Your intuition will not lead you astray if you are honest about the way you feel. Talks will bring about a resolution that should help you make an important decision. Travel or listen to someone with experience. \*\*\*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't believe everything you hear and don't get angry. You will find yourself in a precarious position if you overreact. Staying calm and watching what everyone else does will be your ticket to making the best choice for yourself. \*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You will be likely to make changes based on an emotional whim. You will make the

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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right choice and it will help you out with a legal matter or settlement and allow you to find out where you stand with someone you care about. \*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Nothing will go as planned but your ability to rise to any occasion will leave you sitting in a good position. You can discuss your future plans, look for a better job, talk to someone about a business that interests you or even get better acquainted with someone you like. \*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Take a little time for yourself. This is a good time to reevaluate your current relationships with others and decide who is good for you and who isn't. Don't limit yourself. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are an achiever, willing to try new things and compete for what you want. You are outgoing, diverse and open-minded. You are persuasive, positive and passionate about life.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	1		5		4			
4		1		6	7		2	
	7	3	2		8			
	9				5	2		
1			7					3
	6	4				8		
		8		7	4	5		
7		6	3		5			8
	2		4			7		

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	9	1	6	7	5	4	2	3
7	2	6	8	4	3	5	9	1
5	4	3	1	9	2	6	8	7
2	1	4	3	6	9	7	5	8
6	8	5	2	1	7	9	3	4
9	3	7	5	8	4	2	1	6
4	7	8	9	5	1	3	6	2
1	5	2	4	3	6	8	7	9
3	6	9	7	2	8	1	4	5

Difficulty Level ★

7/21

Difficulty Level \*\*\*\*\*

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## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle. — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PUMPKIN SEEDS

Solution: 6 letters

E	C	U	D	O	R	P	D	I	S	H	S	P	F	A
F	T	N	S	I	Z	E	F	G	D	T	N	I	A	P
L	A	M	S	N	L	A	E	N	N	M	C	C	E	
A	D	E	R	N	W	B	R	D	G	I	U	K	E	P
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O	I	C	D	R	C	T	S	L	O	P	U	A	R	T
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Autumn, Baked, Cardie, Canned, Carve, Chop, Clean, Cook, Cool, Cuts, Dark, Decorate, Design, Dish, Eating, Faces, Fall, Farms, Flat, Flavors, Food, Gourd, Hard, Harvest, Husk, Insides, Iron, Orange, Paint, Peppas, Pick, Pes, Produce, Rind, Roast, Seed, Sauce, Scared, Scorp, Scroop, Scratch, Season, Seeds, Sea, Skin, Slice, Small, Soups, Stack, Stencil, Sugar, Texture, Vegetable, Window

Last Saturday's Answer: Cleopatra

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# The Shark is circling with 2-shot lead in British



**SOUTHPORT, England** (AP)—Greg Norman has another chance to win a major. This time, he might have nothing to lose.

In gusts that approached 50 mph Saturday at Royal Birkdale, Norman finished off another chapter of this incredible script at the British Open with the perfect pitch shot over a pot bunker that settled a few inches from the cup, the easiest putt he had all day.

Norman played bogey-free over the final eight holes for a 2-over 72, emerging from a four-way logjam at the turn to take a two-shot lead over defending champion Padraig Harrington and K.J. Choi.

The rest of the details are still hard to believe.

This is no longer the thrill-seeking Great White Shark who used to routinely beat up on the best players in every major until it was time to award the trophy. That was when his game was tested, and the wounds from so many majors-gone-wrong were still fresh.

Norman is now 53, newly wed to tennis great Chris Evert, a part-time golfer who had not played in a major for three years. The only reason he entered this British Open was to practice for a couple of senior majors in the coming weeks.

"It is different, no question," Norman said. "The players are probably saying, 'My God, what's he doing up there?'"

Equally different are the expectations.

This is the eighth time Norman, who was at 2-over 212, has had at least a share of the 54-hole lead in a major. But it's the first time since he was six shots ahead of Nick Faldo going into the last round of the 1996 Masters, where he lost by five in a collapse that seemed to define his career in the majors.

He will be in the last group Sunday with Harrington, who doesn't see Norman as anything but a two-time British Open champion.

"When he's interested, Greg Norman can really play," said Harrington, who overcame his wind-blown mistakes with



Greg Norman of Australia plays on the 15th hole during the third round of the British Open Golf championship, at the Royal Birkdale golf course, Southport, England, Saturday, July 19, 2008.

four birdies for a 72. "He's well capable of putting it together, as he's shown in the first three rounds, and I don't think anybody should expect anything but good play from him tomorrow."

Norman and Harrington were the only two players among the final 11 groups to break 75.

No one broke par. Nine players failed

to break 80, including David Duval, who was three shots behind until a triple bogey on the opening hole and an 83, matching his worst score in a British Open.

Former U.S. Open champion Jim Furyk was tied for the lead until he took two double bogeys and shot 43 on the back nine on his way to a 77. Choi lost the lead for good with a three-putt bogey on the

15th and wound up with a 75.

The wind raged before dawn and was relentless, measuring 30 mph when the first player teed off at breakfast and holding steady at close to 40 mph during the heart of the third round—making it hard to appreciate what Norman was doing.

He is 18 holes away from becoming golf's oldest major champion by five years. Julius Boros was 48 when he won the 1968 PGA Championship in San Antonio.

Maybe it was just a coincidence, but Jack Nicklaus was in town on Friday. He was 46 and seemingly out to pasture when he shot 30 on the back nine at Augusta National in 1986 to win the Masters for a sixth time. Norman was a runner-up that year, naturally.

Nicklaus saw a few similarities with Norman's bid at the British Open.

"He'll remember how to play when and if he gets in a position to win a golf tournament," Nicklaus said.

That's just what Norman was doing on Saturday, manufacturing shots from memory. After two bogeys through three holes, leaving him three shots behind, he was 120 yards away from the green at No. 5 when he asked for a 5-iron before asking for the yardage.

"The yardage was mentioned to me, but I didn't even pay attention," Norman said. "I already saw the shot. I knew that was the shot I had to play to get the ball close to the hole. And I did that probably three or four, maybe five times today."

He also showed some flair, each hole giving him confidence, peeling away time.

Norman hit driver over the corner of some mounding on the eighth hole, leaving him a short pitch to the green where he made a 10-foot birdie putt to get back in the game. Then came another 350-yard drive with the wind at his back, over the grassy humps, bending back toward the fairway and leaving a 6-iron into the par-5 17th for a birdie that stretched his lead.

And what about Sunday? Norman

wasn't willing to look past dinner.

He came to Royal Birkdale with no expectations, and even another 54-hole lead at a major wasn't going to change that.

"Obviously, I played well enough to put myself in this position," Norman said. "That comes from a good, safe, happy mind in a lot of ways. I'm very content in my mind, but at the same time, I have the lead now."

It is two shots over Choi and Harrington, but with a similar weather forecast for Sunday, anything can happen.

Davis Love III made the cut on the number at 9-over par, then made 16 pars, one birdie and one bogey in his round of 70 and moved up 54 spots into a tie for 15th. That's seven shots behind Norman, or five shots behind the guys chasing him. Ben Curtis, who won the Open five years ago, holed out for eagle with a 9-iron and hung on for a 70 to move up 33 spots into a tie for fifth at 7-over 217.

Asked what it would mean to win, Norman deferred - for now.

"I'm not going to get ahead of myself," he said. "Ask me that question tomorrow night if that happens, OK?"

But he is back in the lead, and back in the game.

Norman has said since the day he arrived at Royal Birkdale that this links course is so fair that nobody is a favorite and anybody had a chance to win. That it includes a 53-year-old on his honeymoon is testament to that.

Perhaps the best feeling he had Saturday wasn't a 5-iron from 120 yards or any other shot he created from feel. It was the nerves and chills he felt walking to the first tee, a sign that he cared.

"It was an indicator for me that I was as nervous as I felt," Norman said. "I hadn't felt that way probably for 10 years, maybe even longer. I was excited about being there. I wanted to be there. And I hope I walk to the first tee feeling the same way tomorrow."

"I'm pretty sure I'm going to be," he said, "because it's a little different situation."

## Brett Favre sticks to script, declines to address rift



**GREEN BAY, Wis.** (AP)—Brett Favre stuck to the script, declining to address his public rift with the Green Bay Packers in an appearance at Lambeau Field on Saturday.

In town to present former teammate Frank Winters for induction into the Packers' Hall of Fame at a banquet Saturday night, Favre briefly spoke with reporters about his former center's career before abruptly stepping off the stage and ducking out a side door.

But Favre did pause to praise the place where he used to play—and now is trying to play his way out of.

"That's the thing about Green Bay," said Favre, who spoke for about three minutes. "It's a special place. There's a lot of tradition. You think of the Packers, you think of all these great names, and to be a part of that—and I know Frank feels honored—is a special thing. I'm thankful that he asked me to be here."

With that, Favre introduced Winters and walked off the stage.

Favre also put the smoldering controversy aside when he received a team MVP award during Saturday night's event, calling himself "an old, gray-

haired quarterback showing I can still do it."

Favre went out of his way to thank former teammates, something he apparently forgot to do during the taping of the ESPY awards in Los Angeles earlier this week.

"It's all about the team," Favre said. "I hope I have never lost sight of that."

The only passing mention to the latest chapter in the Favre retirement saga came from event master of ceremonies Larry McCarren, a former Packers player and current broadcaster.

"There are bigger problems in the world than the one the Packer nation is wrestling with now," McCarren said early on as he urged attendees to put the issue aside for the night.

On Saturday afternoon, Winters said he was glad Favre kept his commitment to present him to the Packers' Hall of Fame despite the fact that it might be an awkward situation, given the very public nature of Favre's rift with the team in recent weeks.

"There's a lot of people probably, around the NFL and the United States probably thinking Brett wouldn't show up today," said Winters, who had asked Favre to present him several months ago. "But I knew deep down inside

he would, and he told me he would be here, and it's a great honor."

Favre retired in early March, but recently has been having second thoughts about playing in 2008. But the latest, and most intense, episode in several off-seasons' worth of Favre's flip-flopping on his future in football was met with lukewarm enthusiasm by the Packers, who spent the offseason planning to move forward with Aaron Rodgers as their starter.

Favre asked to be released from his contract, a request the team has no plans to grant. The next step for Favre could be to petition NFL commissioner Roger Goodell for reinstatement, a move that would force the Packers to release him or place him on their active roster. He also could be traded.

The Packers have filed tampering charges against the Minnesota Vikings, suspecting that interest from the Vikings is the main reason Favre has changed his mind about playing in 2008.

Favre's rights belong to the Packers until his current contract expires after the 2010 season.

In an interview with Fox News last week, Favre criticized general manager Ted Thompson for being untruthful with him. But Packers officials have

gone out of their way not to criticize Favre, instead laying out a specific timeline of their dealings with him in the offseason.

The most significant episode in their timeline came in late March, when Favre led the Packers to believe he was going to retire and they were prepared to welcome him back - only to change his mind once again and stay retired.

Despite the public acrimony, Winters said Saturday night's dinner—where Favre was to present Winters and receive a team MVP award from the Hall of Fame for his performance last season - wouldn't be a problem.

"I don't think it's awkward," Winters said. "I mean, I'm sure there's a lot of people out there that would like to ask him a lot of questions. But this is a special night for a couple of guys, and we're just going to keep it to that."

Saturday night's inductees included Winters, former defensive tackle Gilbert Brown and former video director Al Trembl.

Brown deflected a question about whether Favre's situation is going to overshadow the evening's event.

"I don't know," Brown said. "All I know is tonight is (about) Gilbert

Brown, Frank Winters and Al Trembl. That's all I care about."

Winters also ducked questions about the Favre situation.

"When it plays out, however it plays out, I'll comment at that point," Winters said. "But right now, I'm not going to comment on it and take anything away from the other guys that are getting inducted tonight."

Despite putting himself in a potentially awkward situation, Favre still managed to laugh about the good times he had while playing with Winters - including the first time they met in 1992, when Favre's conditioning was less than ideal.

"I said, 'What do you play?' He said, 'I play center,'" said Favre, who weighed 252 pounds at the time. "He says to me, 'What do you play, linebacker?' And from that point on, we were inseparable."

Winters said he didn't have any insights on Favre's next move. But he acknowledged that it's difficult for players to leave the game.

"You miss the guys," Winters said. "I'm not going to lie, you miss the paycheck. It's a great way to make a living. But sooner or later, you realize it's time to move on."



# Spain's Freire wins Stage 14 of Tour



DIGNE-LES-BAINS, France (AP) —

Tour de France riders approached the Alps focused more on racing and less on the fallout of three scandals over drug use.

Three-time world champion Oscar Freire of Spain closed in on the sprint title by winning Saturday's 14th stage, while Australia's Cadel Evans kept the yellow jersey in the doping-battered race for a fifth straight day.

Evans, who was runner-up last year, knows his clutch on the race leader's yellow jersey is about to be challenged - notably by Team CSC, which has two strong climbers who are within 1 1/2 minutes of him.

"Tomorrow the challenges to my yellow jersey will begin," said Evans, adding that his Silence Lotto team has tried to save the energy of riders who could escort him up the Alpine climbs. "I have to play a smart race."

"We don't have the strongest team for the mountains, we are well aware of that—and I'm sure my competitors are as well," Evans said.

Freire, a three-time world champion, won a mass sprint at the end of the 120.9-mile trek from Nîmes to Digne-les-Bains



Oscar Freire of Spain, center in green jersey, grimaces as he crosses the finish line in Digne-les-Bains to win the 14th stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Nîmes and Digne-les-Bains, southern France, Saturday July 19, 2008.

and moved in on clinching the green jersey given to the Tour's best sprinter.

The 32-year-old Rabobank rider collected his fourth Tour stage victory and his first this year with a time of 4 hours, 13 minutes, 8 seconds. Freire's hold on the green jersey had

come under pressure from Mark Cavendish, who won the last two stages in sprints. But the British rider fell behind in the final climb up the low-grade L'Orme pass, and he missed out on the final dash.

Bjarne Riis, the CSC team manager, said his team is going

to "show some fireworks" in the Alps. His contenders include Frank Schleck of Luxembourg, who trails Evans by one second, and Spain's Carlos Sastre, who is 1:28 back.

"Obviously, the strategy is to try and isolate Evans," said Riis, the 1996 Tour winner who

stayed home from the race last year just weeks after his admission that he had used EPO on way to his victory. "If we want to win this Tour de France we have to attack on these three hard stages in the Alps."

Other riders to watch are Bernhard Kohl of Germany, a strong climber who is 46 seconds behind Evans in fourth, and Russia's Denis Menchov, who is 57 seconds back in sixth.

"I think Menchov is the best candidate in this Tour," said Freire of his Rabobank teammate. "It's really in this last phase of the Tour that the race is going to be determined."

The Alpine stages start hard, and get progressively tougher.

Sunday's 113.7-mile ride from Embrun, France, to Prato Nevoso, Italy features the Agnel pass, a climb so hard it defies categorization in cycling's ranking system, and an uphill finish.

After a rest day Monday, riders face two "beyond category" climbs on Tuesday. Then, it's the granddaddy of this year's race—Wednesday's wicked 130.8-mile ride along three "hors categorie" ascents, up the Galibier and Croix de Fer passes and a finish on the famed Alpe d'Huez.

For those still in contention after that, the last big test will come in a time trial in the next-to-last stage before the July 27

finish in Paris.

One lingering question mark is whether the Tour will be doping free between now and then. These days, virtually no competitor is entirely above suspicion.

Three riders this year tested positive for EPO, a banned blood booster, leading to their ouster and threatening to consign this year's 95th edition to the annals of doping-marred Tours—just like drug use and cheats marred the event in 2006 and 2007.

The scandals involving Spanish riders Manuel Beltran and Moises Duenas Nevado and young Italian star Riccardo Riccio—the winner of two stages this year—have all but quashed the hopes of Tour organizers that this year might have been the one that cycling's premiere event got past its doping woes.

Riccio's Saunier Duval team pulled out of the race and fired both him and Leonardo Piepoli, winner of the 10th stage, for "violation of the team's ethical code," the team said, without elaborating.

Cycling suffered another blow from doping Saturday when the South African conglomerate Barloworld said it will end its sponsorship of the sport after following team rider Duenas Nevado's positive test.

Barloworld said in a statement that its team has a "zero tolerance" policy on doping and that the doping scandal has had a "negative impact" on its brand image.

## Marlins beat Phillies, as race gets tight in NL East



MIAMI (AP) — The tight race for

the National League's East division got a little bit tighter Saturday as the Florida Marlins beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 9-5.

Rookie catcher John Baker drove in four runs Saturday and hit a homer for Florida, who squeezed within 1-1/2 games of NL East-leading Philadelphia, with New York between them.

Baker's shot was one of three homers in the game for the Marlins, who lead the majors in that category with 138 from 97 games.

### Astros 4, Cubs 1

In Houston, pitcher Wandy Rodriguez struck out seven as Houston again stifled Chicago's offense.

Rodriguez allowed nine hits but the Cubs stranded seven runners and dropped their third straight game.

The Astros have won four in a row.

Carlos Zambrano hit his 14th career homer in the seventh inning, a Cubs record for a pitcher.

### Reds 7, Mets 2

In Cincinnati, pitcher Josh Fogg extended his midseason resurgence by getting New York to hit into three double plays, as Cincinnati beat the Mets.

Reds' first baseman Joey Votto had a run-scoring single, then broke the game open with a two-run triple in the seventh.

The three double plays were just what Fogg needed to get his first victory since April, when he was in his first stint in the rotation. He has overcome a demotion to the bullpen and a stint on the disabled list before settling in.

### Diamondbacks 3, Dodgers 2

In Phoenix, Dan Haren threw seven scoreless innings to steer Arizona past Los Angeles.

Conor Jackson homered for the Diamondbacks, who moved one game in front of the Dodgers in the NL West.

Haren scattered four hits, struck out seven and allowed only two runners to reach second base.

### Brewers 8, Giants 5

In San Francisco, Rickie Weeks hit a two-run double to cap a four-run sixth inning that turned the game as Milwaukee beat San Francisco.

Prince Fielder homered for the Brewers, who had nine extra-base hits in winning their third straight.

Milwaukee trailed 4-2 in the sixth before scoring four times to break the game open. One run scored on a wild pitch and another came home on an error by the Giants catcher—both on the same play. Weeks then doubled to left-center to drive in two more and give the Brewers a 6-4 lead.

Fielder added his 20th home run of the year in the seventh, a towering shot that easily cleared the stands in right field and landed in the bay. It marked the 15th consecutive game in which the Brewers have homered, tying the third-longest streak in franchise history. The club record is 19, set in 1996.

### Cardinals 6, Padres 5

In St. Louis, the home side rallied from five runs down to beat San Diego and post a fourth straight win.

Albert Pujols had three hits and four RBIs for the Cardinals.

The Padres have lost five in a row.

### Rockies 7, Pirates 1

In Denver, Scott Podsednik had three doubles among his four hits, leading Colorado comfortably past Pittsburgh.

Rockies pitcher Jorge De La Rosa gave up a run and faced seven batters in the first inning but then settled down, scattering four hits over his last five innings of work while striking out seven.

The Pirates have dropped four straight.

### Nationals 8, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Willie Harris shone with the bat against his old team as Washington beat Atlanta.

Harris, a part-time starter for Atlanta last season, had three hits, two RBIs, a triple, a stolen

base and scored three runs.

Harris also made a diving catch of a line drive in center field to end the game, and has five hits in the first two games of this series.

Washington ended a six-game road losing streak.

### Angels 4, Red Sox 2

In Anaheim, California, a late bases-clearing triple by pinch-hitter Erick Aybar rallied the Los Angeles Angels to beat the Boston Red Sox.

Aybar's hit highlighted a four-run seventh inning for the Angels, and improved a poor season for L.A.'s pinch hitters, who had a sum of just five RBIs all year before Saturday.

The Angels won their fourth straight game to move a season-high 21 games over .500 and extend their division lead over Oakland to eight games.

The Angels have won a big league-leading 59 games, including four of five against the Red Sox, who swept them in the first round of the playoffs on their way to World Series championships in 2004 and 2007.

### Twins 14, Rangers 2

In Minneapolis, Joe Mauer and Justin Morneau each homered and drove in eight runs between them as Minnesota crushed Texas.

Morneau had a two-run homer and a three-run double. Mauer hit a two-run double and a solo shot.

Minnesota moved within half a game of the AL Central leader Chicago.

### Rays 6, Blue Jays 4

In St. Petersburg, Florida, rookie All-Star Evan Longoria hit his first career grand slam to key Tampa Bay's win over Toronto.

Longoria has struggled recently, going 3-for-23 with no RBIs in his previous seven games. He broke out the slide in a big way with the bases-clearing drive to put the Rays ahead 5-0.

Matt Garza pitched 7 2/3 scoreless innings for the Rays, striking out six.

### Yankees 4, Athletics 3, 12 innings

In New York, Jose Molina was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in the 12th inning, lifting New York over Oakland.

New York prevailed in a tight game that lasted 4 hours, 45 minutes in 34-degree (93F) heat.

The Yankees, who stranded a whopping 21 runners, were down to their final out in the ninth before a double than a single drew them level.

### Royals 9, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Kansas City starter Gil Meche and three relievers combined on a two-hitter, steering the Royals past Chicago.

John Buck and Billy Butler homered for Kansas City.

Meche shut down the AL Central leaders, allowing only

two hits in 6 1-3 innings.

### Orioles 11, Tigers 10, 10 innings

In Baltimore, Luke Scott homered in the bottom of the 10th, completing the Orioles rally from a six-run deficit to beat Detroit.

Scott's shot to right field came with one out. It was Scott's third homer in two games, and he marked the occasion by sliding into the plate before his teammates mobbed him.

The drive capped an uplifting night for the Orioles, who fell behind 6-0 in the top of the first and trailed 10-9 in the ninth before a last-gasp homer.

Baltimore had a lucky escape in the top of the 10th when Detroit's Placido Polanco was called out trying to score. The replay indicated Polanco beat the tag at home plate.

It was only the second time in 43 games this season that the Tigers had lost after leading through eight innings.

### Indians 9, Mariners 6

In Seattle, Cleveland snapped a 10-game road losing streak by beating Seattle.

One-time Mariners prospect Shin-Soo Choo homered and doubled in his first two at-bats, and pitcher Jeremy Sowers picked up his first win of the season.

The 10-game skid was Cleveland's longest road slump since 1991.



# July 25 deadline for Fil-for draft hopeful papers

## Applicants must submit complete documents

**MANILA, Philippines**—Philippine Basketball Association commissioner Renauld Barrios the other day said all Fil-foreign players who applied for the coming Annual Draft must complete all the requirements to be considered in the final list of candidates for the August 31 event. Barrios revealed that no less than the PBA Board of Governors reiterated this league policy to him in its July 14 Meeting.

Barrios said the documents required by the league are prerequisites for all Fil-foreign

players wishing to make a career in the PBA.

“The papers that we are requiring them to submit serve as sort of their passport to become candidates for the Annual Draft,” said Barrios.

Seven Fil-Foreign aspirants led by Gabe Norwood have signified their intention to join the Annual Draft but none of them have completed the requirement imposed by the league.

Supposedly, the deadline for submission of the documents was last July 8 but the PBA Commissioner’s Office is giving the concerned applicants a grace period of until July 25 to submit at least xerox copies of all the required documents so that verification of said papers can take place promptly.

Barrios, however, said that authenticated and original cop-

ies of those documents must be turned over to the league by noon of August 29.

The pertinent documents that have to be submitted by Fil-Foreign applicants in order to be included in the list of rookie hopefuls are as follows:

1. Certificate of Recognition from Bureau of Immigration
2. Affirmation from the Department of Justice
3. Authenticated birth certificate from the National Statistics Office if applicant is born in the Philippines (or equivalent official agency in country of birth other than the Philippines)
4. Authenticated birth certificate of Filipino parent or other valid document acceptable to the appropriate agency
5. Marriage certificate of par-

ents (or in the absence thereof due circumstances beyond applicants control, legal recognition by applicant’s Filipino father or other proof evidencing filiation such as will, record of birth or DNA test results)

6. Duly notarized and/or authenticated naturalization papers of Filipino parents.
7. Duly notarized affidavits of at least 3 persons residing in the Philippines attesting to the claim of citizenship of applicant, and
8. All other documents which the PBA Commissioner may require.

Any of the Fil-foreign applicants who fail to complete the requirement by July 25 will be considered out of the list according to Barrios.

“We need time to check the veracity and authenticity of the

documents that they will submit,” Barrios said.

The Commissioner’s Office and the 10 teams have one month to verify the legitimacy of the Fil-foreign aspirants.

The list of Fil-foreign aspirants also includes Kevin Delafu, Jared Dillinger, Robert Reyes, Solomon Mercado, Christopher Viardo and Charles Waters. ([www.pba.com.ph](http://www.pba.com.ph))

## OKC signs CJ Miles to offer sheet

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)**—Oklahoma City has signed restricted free agent guard C.J. Miles to an offer sheet.

Oklahoma city general manager Sam Presti announced the move on Friday. Under terms of the NBA’s collective bargaining agreement, Miles’ current team, the Utah Jazz, has

seven days to match the multi-year offer.

Miles was the 34th player chosen in the 2005 draft, selected by Utah out of Skyline High School in Dallas.

## LUCKY

**From Page 28**

13-year-old child A.J.

What made Musca’s win even more impressive is the

10-year bowling veteran only plays at the Oleai bowling venue on Saturdays as he is busy tending the CBC the rest of the week.

Gutierrez (623 and 207.67), Edward Baluyan (621 and

207), Ronald Epan (589 and 196.33), Robles (588 and 196.33), Cacdac (586 and 195.33), Yho Villavicencio (584 and 194.67), Raphael Zapanta (550 and 183.33), Percy Omechalang (547 and 182.33),

Pabs Amog (533 and 177.67), Jonathan Eparwa (533 and 177.67), Tony Verdaguer (529 and 176.33), and Jorge Soladad (521 and 173.67) finished in the Top 12 of the qualifiers roll-off.

## CNMI

**From Page 28**

A.J. Castro, Jared Sablan, Jun Rabauliman, Raymond Saralu, A.J. Lizama, Frankie Camacho, Jonah Flores, Jerome Reyes, Keene Deleon Guerrero, Jeremy Lizama, and Poland Masaharu

ballplayers booked a ticket to the 2008 Little League Asia-Pacific Tournament after beating Rota, 11-1, last June 12 at the Joaquin Ogo Sr. Baseball Field in Sinapalo.

The CNMI wraps up its elimination round assignment on July Wednesday when it takes on Indonesia. The finals of the 2008 Asia-Pacific Major League Tournament will be held on July 24.

organizing baseball events.

In report from China Xinhua news agency, Major League director of baseball development for Asia, Rick Dell, said he was impressed by the reception of baseball among the young in Hong Kong.

The team faced off against Australia yesterday, but results were still not available as of press time.

The CNMI’s third game today will pit them against archrival Guam. New Zealand will be up next for the local boys when they square off against them tomorrow.

The winner of the 2008 Little League Asia-Pacific Tournament will qualify to compete in the 2008 Little League Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, later this summer.

The Little League is a non-profit organization with the objective of promoting health and integrity among the young by

There will also be tryouts scheduled at the older Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium every Tuesday and Thursday beginning 4:30pm.

Rangamar hopes that veterans of the Marianas Inter-Scholastic Organization and Private Schools League will attend the tryouts and form the core of the women’s 19-and-under national team.

## 15K

**From Page 28**

gram, and the monitoring of the program.

Closing date for applications from the federations is July 31, 2008, and no late nominations will be accepted by FIBA Oceania.

Please go to the FIBA Ocea-

nia website to download the application forms. Any questions about the application should be emailed to Judy Smith on [judy@fibaoceania.com](mailto:judy@fibaoceania.com).

## Women’s National Team tryouts

In related news, BANMI president and CNMI Women’s National coach Elias Rangamar has scheduled tryouts for the

women’s team he is assembling for the FIBA Oceania Under-19 Youth Basketball Tournament set in Guam this coming September.

Rangamar said interested players who were born on or after Jan. 1, 1999, only need to show up with a passion for the sport and eagerness to learn at the Marianas High School from 2pm to 4pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

president Jhun Calma, secretary Manny Po, and treasurer Guban.

Its board of directors is made up of Fr. Manny Corcuera, Miguel Cruz, Jr., Ted Malaran, Gil Faller, Rey Ferraz, Greg De Torres, Rene Batallones, Nestor Siruelo, and George Sablan

Established in 1993, Fil-Taga’s tournaments operate under

## BAUTISTA

**From Page 28**

July Ace of the Month. Bautista still got the moneybag, though, with his net 66 (79 gross) with Ferraz (91 gross) and Freddie Cataluna (80 gross) tying Malaran with their identical 70.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS						
AMERICAN LEAGUE					Davis Love III	75-74-70 219
East Division					Steve Stricker	77-71-71 219
	W	L	Pct	GB	Retief Goosen	71-75-73 219
Philadelphia	53	45	.541	—	Sergio Garcia	72-73-74 219
New York	52	46	.531	1	Jim Furyk	71-71-77 219
Florida	51	46	.526	1 1/2	Simon Khan	77-72-71 220
Atlanta	46	51	.474	6 1/2	Todd Hamilton	74-74-72 220
Washington	37	61	.378	16	Justin Leonard	77-70-73 220
Central Division					Jean-Baptiste Gonnnet	75-72-73 220
Chicago	57	40	.588	—	Tom Lehman	74-73-73 220
St. Louis	56	43	.566	2	Anders Hansen	78-68-74 220
Milwaukee	54	43	.557	3	Camilo Villegas	76-65-79 220
Cincinnati	48	51	.485	10	David Frost	75-73-73 221
Houston	46	51	.474	11	Trevor Immelman	74-74-73 221
Pittsburgh	44	53	.454	13	Mike Weir	71-76-74 221
West Division					Zach Johnson	73-72-76 221
Arizona	48	49	.495	—	Soren Hansen	75-69-77 221
Los Angeles	47	50	.485	1	Adam Scott	70-74-77 221
Colorado	42	57	.424	7	Peter Hanson	71-72-78 221
San Francisco	40	57	.412	8	Stephen Ames	73-70-78 221
San Diego	37	61	.378	11 1/2	Paul Casey	78-71-73 222
NATIONAL LEAGUE					Pablo Larrazabal	75-74-73 222
East Division					Colin Montgomerie	73-75-74 222
Philadelphia	53	45	.541	—	Doug Labelle II	78-70-74 222
New York	52	46	.531	1	Bart Bryant	70-78-74 222
Florida	51	46	.526	1 1/2	Woody Austin	76-72-74 222
Atlanta	46	51	.474	6 1/2	Jeff Overton	72-75-75 222
Washington	37	61	.378	16	a-Thomas Sherreard	77-69-76 222
Central Division					Jay Williamson	73-72-77 222
Chicago	57	40	.588	—	Scott Verplank	77-67-78 222
St. Louis	56	43	.566	2	Stuart Appleby	72-71-79 222
Milwaukee	54	43	.557	3	Fredrik Jacobson	71-72-79 222
Cincinnati	48	51	.485	10	Graeme McDowell	69-73-80 222
Houston	46	51	.474	11	Heath Slocum	73-76-74 223
Pittsburgh	44	53	.454	13	Nick O'Hern	74-75-74 223
West Division					Andres Romero	77-72-74 223
Arizona	48	49	.495	—	Ernie Els	80-69-74 223
Los Angeles	47	50	.485	1	Michael Campbell	75-74-74 223
Colorado	42	57	.424	7	Gregory Bourdy	74-74-75 223
San Francisco	40	57	.412	8	Robert Karlsson	75-73-75 223
San Diego	37	61	.378	11 1/2	Phil Mickelson	79-68-76 223
Yesterday's Games					Paul Waring	73-74-76 223
St. Louis 6, San Diego 5					Gregory Havret	71-75-77 223
Florida 9, Philadelphia 5					David Horsey	74-70-79 223
Milwaukee 8, San Francisco 5					Jose-Filipe Lima	73-76-75 224
Houston 4, Chicago Cubs 1					Richard Green	76-72-76 224
Washington 8, Atlanta 2					Jonathan Lomas	75-73-76 224
Cincinnati 7, N.Y. Mets 2					Craig Parry	77-70-77 224
Colorado 7, Pittsburgh 1					Jean Van de Velde	73-71-80 224
Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 2					Ariel Canete	78-71-76 225
St. Louis 6, San Diego 5					John Rollins	73-75-77 225
Florida 9, Philadelphia 5					Wen Chong Liang	77-71-77 225
Milwaukee 8, San Francisco 5					David Howell	76-71-78 225
Houston 4, Chicago Cubs 1					Kevin Stadler	72-75-78 225
Washington 8, Atlanta 2					Tom Gillis	74-72-79 225
Cincinnati 7, N.Y. Mets 2					Nick Dougherty	75-71-79 225
Colorado 7, Pittsburgh 1					Anthony Wall	71-73-81 225
Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 2					David Duval	73-69-83 225
St. Louis 6, San Diego 5					Lucas Glover	78-71-77 226
Florida 9, Philadelphia 5					Richard Finch	75-73-78 226
Milwaukee 8, San Francisco 5					Martin Kaymer	75-72-79 226
Houston 4, Chicago Cubs 1					Phillip Archer	75-74-78 227
Washington 8, Atlanta 2					Lee Westwood	75-74-78 227
Cincinnati 7, N.Y. Mets 2					Martin Wiegele	75-74-78 227
Colorado 7, Pittsburgh 1					Sean O'Hair	75-73-80 228
Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 2					Thomas Aiken	75-71-82 228
					Justin Rose	74-72-82 228
					Brendan Jones	74-73-83 230
					Chih-Bing Lam	72-75-83 230

BRITISH OPEN SCORES					BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS	
SOUTHPORT, England (AP)—Scores Saturday at the British Open, a £5.2 million (US\$8.24 million) event at 7,173-yard, par-70 Royal Birkdale Golf Club Course (a-amateur):					LOCAL SCORES	
THIRD ROUND					Little League Standings	
Greg Norman	70-70-72	212	Asia		Chinese Taipei	1 0
Padraig Harrington	74-68-72	214	Hong Kong		1 0	
KJ Choi	72-67-75	214	Thailand		1 0	
Simon Wakefield	71-74-70	215	Korea		0 1	
Ben Curtis	78-69-70	217	China		0 1	
Ross Fisher	72-74-71	217	India		0 1	
Anthony Kim	72-74-71	217	Pacific			
Alexander Noren	72-70-75	217	CNMI	1 0		
Henrik Stenson	76-72-70	218	Guam	1 0		
Graeme Storm	76-70-72	218	Indonesia	1 0		
a-Chris Wood	75-70-73	218	Philippines	0 1		
Ian Poulter	72-71-75	218	Australia	0 1		
Robert Allenby	69-73-76	218	New Zealand	0 1		
Rocco Mediate	69-73-76	218				



# The Week in Sports

## Little League wraps up 2008 season



MARK RABAGO  
Jeremy Rabauliman of the Patriots won the playoff season MVP of the Major League after leading the team to its third consecutive title in the 2008 season. Beside him in the photo is Saipan Little League Baseball Association president Juan I. Tenorio.



MARK RABAGO  
Ol'Aces center Along Camacho goes up strong in Game 1 of the Inaugural FMI Inter-Color Basketball League's best-of-three finals against Advance X-Terminators last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



MARK RABAGO  
Jon Lim of Advance X-Terminators gets fouled by Luis Iguel of Ol'Aces in Game 1 of the Inaugural FMI Inter-Color Basketball League's best-of-three finals last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
CNMI bet R.J. Macaranas fell out of contention in the boys' 9-10 division of the 2008 Callaway Golf Junior World Golf Championship after shooting a 15 over par 77 at Torrey Pines Wednesday.

Right, PTI president and CEO Ricardo Delgado leads the fastbreak against Autonomous in their game last Wednesday in the 2008 PTI Inter-Government Business Basketball League.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Far right, Mitch Aaron of Autonomous drives hard to the lane in their game against PTI last Wednesday in the 2008 PTI Inter-Government Business Basketball League.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Saipan Little League Baseball Association finally closed its curtains to the 2008 season with an awards ceremony held last July 12 at the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The event, which saw SLLBA fete champions in the Major, Junior, Senior, and Big Leagues as

well as the individual winners of the MVPs and statistical category races, came almost two months after all four age group finals were concluded.

However, the SLLBA had good reason to postpone the award ceremony, as Saipan hosted the 2008 Asia-Pacific Regional Little League Tournament in the three older age groups recently.

In other sports news last week, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. did what Advance X-Terminators failed to do last Thursday when the power



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
F&B Service lost to Finance/Shipping in a no-contest last week in the semifinals of the 7th Annual Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Inter-Departmental Basketball League.



went off at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and stalled Ol'Aces' march to the championship of the Inaugural FMI Inter-Color Basketball League.

At the time the islands' much maligned utility turned off the juice at the Oleai Sports Complex, the Oleai team was comfortably ahead, 109-96, at the 3:30 mark of the fourth and final quarter in Game 3 of the teams' best-of-three championship series.

Last week also saw CNMI bet R.J. Macaranas falling out of contention in the boys' 9-10 division of



MARK RABAGO  
Michelle K. Duty of the United States Coast Guard took part in Saipan Walking Association, Inc.'s 2008 PTI Aqua Walk held last July 12 in the waters off the Aquarius Beach Tower Hotel in Chalan Kanoa.

the 2008 Callaway Golf Junior World Golf Championship after putting up a monster number at Torrey Pines Wednesday (Tuesday in California). Macaranas finished with a 15 over par 77 after finishing eight-over par in the eventful third hole.

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's standout Kensuke Kimura, meanwhile, recently returned from three weeks of hard training in Guam. Kimura flew to the U.S. territory last month to join Tsunami Guam practices for its swimmers that will be taking part in the 2008 Junior Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.

Students from the former Soviet Union also took part in the 2008 PTI Aqua Walk held last July 12 in the waters off the Aquarius Beach Tower Hotel in Chalan Kanoa.

While the annual event kicked off at around 7:30am, the local walking group waited for 10 Russian students and two of their teachers to join the Aqua Walk a couple of hours later.

Buoyed by the presence of company president and CEO Ricardo Delgado, PTI rallied to beat defending champion Autonomous, 95-88, last Wednesday in the continuation of the 2008 PTI Inter-Government Business Basketball League.

In basketball across the channel, Finance/Shipping advanced to face Casino Department in the finals of the 7th Annual Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Inter-Departmental Basketball League after beating F&B Service in a no-contest last week.





## Little League wraps up 2008 season

The Saipan Little League Baseball Association finally closed its curtains to the 2008 season with an awards ceremony held last July 12 at the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

## The Shark is circling with 2-shot lead in British

Greg Norman has another chance to win a major. This time, he might have nothing to lose.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## CNMI All-Stars beat RP in Asia-Pacific Tournament debut

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR



The CNMI Major League All-Stars won their debut in the 2008 Little League Asia-Pacific Tournament after beating the Phil-

ippines, 2-0, last Saturday at the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort.

No details were available but the win was welcome news for Saipan Little League Baseball Association, which so far has one team advancing to the World Series of the 2008 Big League later this month.



Aguon

In other results from the former Crown Colony, Indonesia edged Little League rookie Australia, 3-2; and Guam routed New Zealand, 7-1, in Pa-

cific Pool play.

The CNMI thus leads the Pacific Pool along with archrival Guam and Indonesia as all three teams sport identical 1-0 win-loss records.

In the Asia Pool, Chinese-Taipei got the better of their brethren from China, 22-1; host Hong Kong edged powerhouse

South Korea, 2-1; and Thailand ran rings around debuting India, 30-0. Chinese-Taipei, Hong Kong, and Thailand are all tied in first place with 1-0 records.

Making up the CNMI Major League All-Stars are Jeremy Rabauliman, Chris Mizer, A.J. Lizama, Ricky Joe Riungel, **See CNMI on Page 26**

## Lucky Rusty wins Bowler of the Year

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Talk about a Cinderella story in bowling.

Rusty Musca was the 13th and final qualifier for the nine-game roll-off then proceeded to top it before out-dueling youth bowler Raymond Zapanta in the finals of the 2008 Philippine Bowling Association Budweiser Bowler of the Year Tournament.

Musca, who works for the cross town Capital Bowling Center in Garapan, would have to thank his lucky stars for how he dodged bullet after bullet yesterday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

The 35-year-old right-hander first had to survive a three-player roll-off for the 13th and final slot for the nine-game roll-off. He fulfilled his part of the bargain by scoring 39 in the two-frame roll-off as against Gina Sablan's 29 and Bernard Paraiso's 15. All three finished the qualifiers with an identical score of 520.

He then made good on his second opportunity by rediscovering his bowling stroke in the final nine-game roll-off that determined the Top 5 that would advance to the elimination round and in the championship.

Musca literally came out of nowhere by knocking down 1,826 pinfalls, good for a 202.89 average, to take the No. 1 seed in the stepladder finals.

Zapanta finished No. 2 with his 1,821 and 202.33 average, while Efren Caccad (1,740 and 193.33), Nick Gutierrez (1,734 and 192.67), and Dannie Robles (1,731 and 192.33) made up the rest of the stepladder finalists.

In the elimination round, Robles came out on top by firing 156 as opposed to Gutierrez's and Caccad's 152 and 145 scores.

Robles, however, lost steam against Zapanta in the semifinals making good on only 155 pins to Zapanta's 220.

In the finals, Musca showed his rustiness after sitting out the eliminations and semis when he yielded the first game, 210-165, against the veteran of the 20th Asian Tenpin Bowling Championships.

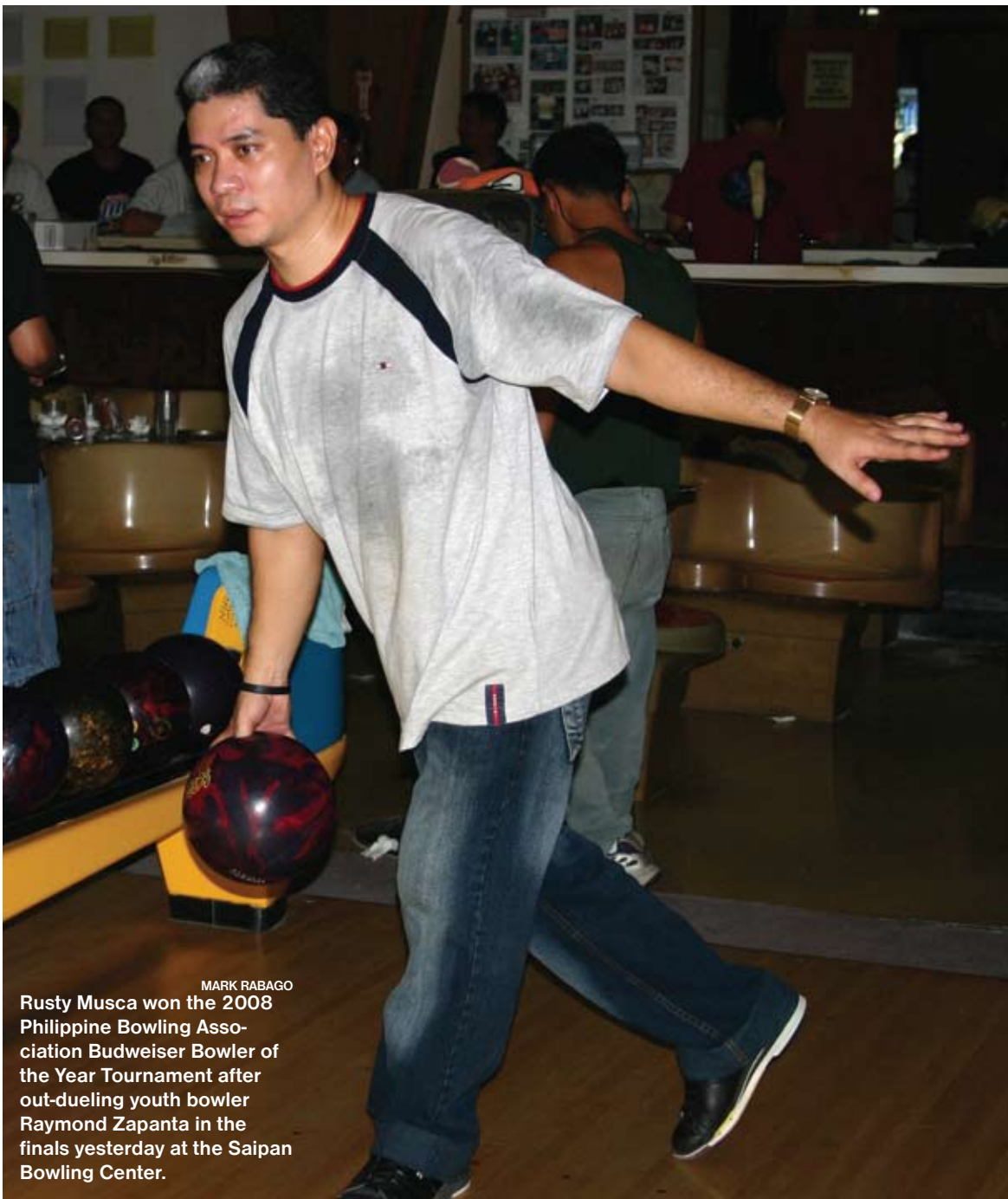
Musca, however, battled Zapanta tooth and nail in the second game, as both keglers were neck-and-neck before the latter took a 150-143 lead after eight frames on a seven spare.

The 2004 Bowler of the Year appeared headed for the sure win when Musca could only muster a 182 in 10 frames, but he succumbed to the pressure with a seven split in the 10th to hand over the win to Musca, 182-176.

Musca was a lost for words after his come-from-behind rollercoaster win. He said he never entertained thoughts of winning the 2008 Bowler of the Year and was actually contented just to qualify for the stepladder finals.

He said he would like to dedicate his Bowler of the Year win—his first—to his wife Nora and

**See LUCKY on Page 26**



MARK RABAGO  
Rusty Musca won the 2008 Philippine Bowling Association Budweiser Bowler of the Year Tournament after out-dueling youth bowler Raymond Zapanta in the finals yesterday at the Saipan Bowling Center.



## Bautista fires lowest score, but Malaran is July winner

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR



Ted Malaran fired only the second lowest score of the Fil-Taga Golfers Association July Ace of the Month Tournament last

SAIPAN TRIBUNE  
Henry Bautista, seen here in a file photo, recorded the lowest score in Fil-Taga Golfers Association's July Ace Tournament but had to yield the title because he already won last May's event.

July 13 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course, but that didn't prevent the Aqua Resort Club purchasing manager from winning the monthly plum.

This happened after the weekend's topnotcher, Henry Bautista, already secured the May Ace and Rey Ferraz, who finished tied with Malaran, was the June winner. As per club rules, players can only win one monthly tourney in the course of a year.

This Malaran, with his net 70 (91 gross), was hailed Fil-Taga's **See BAUTISTA on Page 26**

## \$15K grant available from FIBA Oceania



SAIPAN TRIBUNE  
The CNMI's Pearl Palacios drives against Chuuk in the 2005 Micronesian Games on Saipan. FIBA Oceania is making available \$15,000 AUD for the hiring of a female basketball development officer for the winning jurisdiction.

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR



The Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands can apply for a \$15,000 AUD grant from FIBA Oceania.

If successful, the grant must be used for the employment of a female basketball development officer for a 12-month period.

In a media release from the region's basketball governing body, it said the grant is for the development of women's basketball in the zone.

"Possible \$15,000 grant available from FIBA Oceania FIBA Oceania may have access to a 2009 grant for women, and just one island federation will get it all... as the funding will be given to just one basketball federation in the zone."

FIBA Oceania is inviting interested island federations in the zone to complete the application form for the 2009 funding.

According to FIBA Oceania, the region's basketball governing body will have a strong influence in the selection of the development officer, the formulation of the work pro-

**See 15K on Page 26**